CANADA'S

styleathome

ASK US!
Your DESIGN *Questions* ANSWERED

The BEFORE & AFTER *issue*

+

LIVING WITH COLOUR
Your Palette, Your Way

VEG POWER!
Get a boost from colourful, delicious & healthy plant-based recipes

styleathome.com

VISIT…

LANZAROTE
Caliente.com

MAKE ROOM FOR ALL OF YOU

©2023 California Closet Company, Inc. All rights reserved. Each California Closets® franchised location is independently owned and operated. California Closet Company, Inc., 1414 Harbour Way S, Suite 1750, Richmond, CA 94804 USA.

CALIFORNIACLOSETS.CA | 855.282.6354 | VISIT A SHOWROOM | COMPLIMENTARY IN-HOME DESIGN CONSULTATION

CALIFORNIA CLOSETS®

Reno Fever

Do you love before and after decorating stories as much as I do? I find it fascinating to see a space transformed into something completely new, customized and gorgeous. With so many of us opting, lately, to renovate instead of move – what with inflation and more time at home due to the pandemic – it seems an ideal time to share our makeover stories, in case you, too, have caught reno fever.

We've got a whole home renovation (page 82), a "suite" makeover (page 54), and a before and after story (page 42) that showcases nine rooms transformed by different designers. Throughout, we offer insider advice.

In the before and after story, I noticed a number of designers say their favourite feature of a project was custom built-ins because they are so effective at providing storage and turning problem spots into special spaces. I agree, and if you're considering adding some, I suggest hiring an experienced designer and cabinetmaker so that your money is well spent. With the price of materials so high, you want to ensure your investment pays off.

But transformation comes with small-scale fixes, too. Don't miss the laundry room designed by Vanessa Francis (page 46). Wainscotting, a new floor and a cool cement sink make the room a place to linger (although I'm not sure the dog photographed in the room fully appreciates the sink!).

Vanessa chose a lovely pink for the walls, illustrating how impactful colour is. Happily, new colour is one of the easiest ways to refresh a home, which is why we focus on it in our before and after issue. The designers and homeowners featured here use colour uniquely, creating harmony or contrast, and camouflaging or highlighting features.

Whether you are embarking on a small project, a total gut job or just dreaming of change, I know our before and after issue is your best place to begin.

✉ veronique.leblanc@tva.ca f facebook.com/styleathome
@styleathome instagram.com/styleathome

Outdoor Style
SUMMER'S HERE!
STYLISH WAYS
ALL SUMMER LONG

NOTICE TO SUBSCRIBERS

Free bonus section from *Style at Home*! Download *Outdoor Style* at **tvastore.com/outdoor**

PHOTOGRAPHY, ANDRÉANNE GAUTHIER. STYLING, MÉLANIE LARIVIÈRE. MAKEUP, CAMILLE SABBAGH

$2,499
HELIO
modular sectional sofa
Low Prices
AMAZING STYLES

STRUCTUBE

SHOP ONLINE AT STRUCTUBE.COM

With over 75 stores across the country, Structube is the shopping destination to discover a wide selection of modern and trendy furniture offered at exceptionally low prices.*

*Structube reserves the right to make any price changes without prior notice.

FREE DELIVERY

Enjoy free delivery with orders over $299.*
Visit structube.com for more details.

*Certain conditions may apply.

styleathome

APRIL/MAY 2023

HOMES

64 **RETRO ROMANCE**
A 1950s bungalow in Gatineau, Que., features a whimsically yet skillfully curated collection of 20th-century art and *objets*.

74 **ELEVATED STYLE**
Fresh, fun colour and a warm Scandi kitchen add custom flair to a builder-grade condo.

82 **FAMILY STYLE**
Designer and *Style at Home* columnist Arren Williams used confident colour and fuel-injected pattern to refresh a family home.

DECORATING

26 **1 SOFA, 3 WAYS**
The much-loved sectional provides the ultimate flexibility. With some decorating magic, it can be a star in diverse settings.

32 **COLOUR INSTINCT**
These charming hues might just capture your heart.

36 **WHAT AN ORIGINAL!**
Classic and contemporary come together in a century-old home renovated for modern family life.

42 **BEFORE & AFTER**
Ready for a reno? Designer tips for getting it right and nine totally transformed rooms will get you started on the right path.

54 **THE SUITE SPOT**
A bedroom and home office joined by a bathroom come together with panache.

58 **COOL COMFORT**
Refreshing colour and bold decor transform a Toronto new-build into a comfortably stylish family home.

18

You'll be on cloud nine when you taste our melt-in-your-mouth Cloud Cluster Meringues!

92

Get an energy boost from these easy recipes by "Love & Lemons" blogger Jeanine Donofrio.

COLUMNS

9 STYLE NEWS
The best home decor products, trends and decorating ideas.

16 KITCHEN SHOPPING
Neons were a bright spot in the 1980s, but what about that decade's softer shades? Get set to press "rewind" on your mixed tape.

18 DESSERT OF THE MONTH
Every cloud should have a chocolate lining...if they're our delicious Cloud Cluster Meringues, that is.

20 HIGH OR LOW
Two chic vanities look like twins, but one is best if you're awash in cash. Can you tell which is which?

24 DESIGN CLASSICS
Arren Williams brightens our day with his look at our obsession with happy-hued kitchen chairs.

30 DESIGN LESSON
Samantha Pynn shows us how to bring a new hue home.

52 ASK US
Designer Karl Lohnes answers your decorating questions.

FOOD

92 POWER PLANTS
The plant-based recipes in Jeanine Donofrio's new book, *Love & Lemons: Simple Feel Good Food*, will supercharge you (and your table) with colourful, delish, nourishing meals.

REGULARS

FROM OUR EDITOR 4
WORKBOOK 96
SPOTLIGHT 98

CANADA'S
styleathome
The BEFORE & AFTER issue
LIVING WITH COLOUR

ON THE COVER
Playful pattern and happy hues bring verve to this family home by designer Arren Williams.

COVER PHOTOGRAPHY
Stacey Brandford

styleathome

AT YOUR SERVICE

Manage your subscription online with ease!

RENEW MY SUBSCRIPTION

Renew or extend your subscription online to enjoy uninterrupted delivery in service.

Please note that our renewal notices are produced in advance. You may receive a notification even after you have replied or paid your bill. Please verify your account status online.

CHANGE MY MAILING ADDRESS

Please allow 6 to 8 weeks for processing your address change.

MAKE A PAYMENT

Check your balance and pay your bill easily and securely.

GIFT SUBSCRIPTION

Give or renew a gift subscription in just a few clicks!

SUBSCRIPTION EXPIRY DATE

Find out when your subscription will end.

DELIVERY

Please allow 4 to 8 weeks for delivery of the first issue.

OTHER QUESTIONS

Check out our FAQ page.

Go to
styleathome.com/service

subscription@tva.ca

styleathome

VOLUME **26** ISSUE 03

ONE EASY WAY TO REACH US: FIRSTNAME.LASTNAME@TVA.CA

Vice-President, TVA Publications Lyne Robitaille
Publisher, Monthly Magazines Martine Aubin
Publication Director Véronique Leblanc
Art Director Isabelle Dubuc
Features Editor Kathleen Dore
Copy Editor Jennifer Krissilas
Contributing Editors Karl Lohnes, Samantha Pynn, Arren Williams

OPERATION & PRODUCTION
Director of Operation and Production Johanne Perron
Production Coordinator Martine Lalonde
Production Manager all platforms Steeve Tremblay
Infographics Josée Blais
Photo Editing Stéphanie Bachand, Patrick Forgues, Éric Lépine, Joe Michasiw
Acquisitions & Copyright Negotiation Manager Mélanie Turcotte
Visual Content Researcher Emmanuelle Neault

MARKETING, COMMUNICATIONS
Senior Marketing & Circulation Director Martine Aubin
Circulation Director Evelyne Labonté
Marketing Director all platforms Marie-Josée Smith
Project Manager Olga Goncalves-Costa
Digital Marketing Manager Marie Bioteau

ADVERTISING SALES, TORONTO 416-227-8248
General Sales Manager Patricia Heckmann
Senior Director, Media Solutions Jérôme Leys
Sales Experts, Magazines Cathy Ellis, Andrea McBride, Vanessa Watson

ADVERTISING SALES, MONTREAL 514 526-9251 ext. 2366 (ventespublicitaires@tva.ca)
Principal Vice-President, Sales Patrick Jutras
Senior Director, Magazines & Newspapers Kimberley Rouse
Director, Commercialization Magazines & Newspapers Annie Bergeron
Advertising Sales Coordinators
Rosina De Rose, Andréanne Lamoureux, Chantal Simard, Maria Perrotti

QUEBEC CITY AND REST OF QUEBEC
418 688-9330 ext. 7501
General Sales Manager Nathalie Langevin

ADMINISTRATION
Senior Human Resources Director Janie St-Onge

SENIOR MANAGEMENT, TVA GROUP INC.
Vice-President Finance Anick Dubois
Vice-President Communications Véronique Mercier

PRINTING
Printed at Transcontinental RBW Graphics,
a division of Transcontinental

Printing 2005 G.P., 2049 20th St. E., Owen Sound, ON N4K 5R2.
All reproduction requests must be made to COPIBEC (paper reproductions at 800-717-2022) ISSN: 1915-8998

DISTRIBUTION
Distributed by Comag

SUBSCRIPTIONS: 1-800-387-7244, STYLEATHOME.COM
STYLE AT HOME, Sub. Dept., P.O. Box 814, Markham Station, Markham, ON L3P 7Z6. Send address changes to the post office box address above, including the mailing label from your latest issue. Allow eight weeks for changes.

SUBSCRIPTION PRICES
Canadian subscriptions: **1 year** = **$34.95** (plus taxes)
U.S. subscriptions: **1 year** = **$90.00** (payable in advance)
International subscriptions: **1 year** = **$180.00** (payable in advance)
We occasionally use our subscriber list for marketing purposes, or share it with carefully selected companies whose products may be of interest to you. If you do not want your name to appear on this list, please notify us in writing. Canadian Postmaster: Return undeliverable Canadian addresses to Style at Home, 123 Front Street West #909, Toronto, ON, M5J 2M2. Publications Mail Agreement 41557548, PAP Registration 08282. Postage paid at Gateway in Mississauga, ON.

Digital editions are available on Molto, Zinio, Press Reader and Ebsco.

OUR PRIVACY POLICY
The reproduction of written material, illustrations or photographs from this magazine is prohibited. Although all possible precautions have been taken to ensure that the information contained in *Style at Home* is accurate, it is understood that the magazine cannot be held responsible for errors or omissions that may occur in relation to the use or presentation of this information. The articles in this magazine are the exclusive responsibility of their authors.

Style at Home is published 9 times a year (except for occasional combined, expanded or premium issues) by TVA Publications Inc., 123 Front Street West #909, Toronto, ON M5J 2M2; 416-733-7600; groupetva.ca.

For any comments, please email letters@styleathome.com

©2023 TVA Publications Inc. All rights reserved.

TVA PUBLICATIONS

Funded by the Government of Canada | Canada

PRINTING PAPER IS A RENEWABLE RESOURCE THINK RECYCLING!

FSC www.fsc.org MIX Paper | Supporting responsible forestry FSC® C011825

style news

PAINT PALETTE *of the month*

OH PISTACHIO
SW 9033, Sherwin-Williams,
sherwin-williams.com.

FORT PIERCE GREEN
712, Benjamin Moore,
benjaminmoore.ca.

Behr **ANJOU PEAR** MQ4-41,
Home Depot,
homedepot.ca.

FIRST STAR SW 7646,
Sherwin-Williams,
sherwin-williams.com.

WE'RE INSPIRED BY...

green. Our colour-hungry eyes are tired of shades of grey in the landscape. Maybe you're tired of them in your rooms, too. Why not redecorate with this happy hue and bring a sense of the great outdoors indoors? We think lovely green is one shade that's perennially in style.

PHOTOGRAPHY, GREEN FLORAL WALLPAPER, WALLSAUCE

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

Green

1 Benedict 28 **PENDANT,** $1,050, Tungstene, tungstene.ca. **2** Velasca **PITCHER AND GLASSES,** $315, Obakki, obakki.com. **3** Vedbo **ARMCHAIR,** $279, IKEA, ikea.ca. **4 CUSHION,** $30, Boutique Kozy, boutiquekozy.ca. **5** St-Laurent **SIDE TABLE,** $300, Livom, livom.ca. **6** Adama Alma's Campo vinyl **RUG,** from $80, Nüspace, nuspace.ca. **7** Botanical **CUSHION,** $24, VdeV, vdevmaison.com. **8** Toou's Outo indoor/outdoor **LOUNGE CHAIR,** $269, Simons, simons.ca. **9** Sans **PLANT HOLDERS,** $18 (small), $40 (large), Zone, zonemaison.com. **10** Light cotton **THROW,** $40, HomeSense, homesense.ca. **11** Sophie Manessiez **SERVING PLATTER,** $65, Les Ensembliers, ensembliers.com. **12** Iko **BENCH,** $119, Structube, structube.com.

10

11

12

"The Perseverance wool rug hints at Brutalist design, with bold graphic forms that hark back to other designs in the collection."

Perseverance wool **RUG,** from $308, Renwil, renwil.com.

"This vase, with its offset organic shape, is inspired by my own collection of vintage Sgrafo Modern vases made in Germany back in the 1950s."

Pioneer **VASE,** $118, Renwil, renwil.com.

INSPIRED DESIGN

Kudos to designer and *Style at Home* columnist Arren Williams! His collection at trade-only retailer Renwil (a trusted one-stop shop for designers) is growing. "The collection expands on some of my favourite design moments, like Brutalism and Midcentury Modern, as well as a touch of '80s Post-Modernism," says Arren. "I'm looking to tell a design story. One that works whether you take an eclectic approach or want things to subtly coordinate."

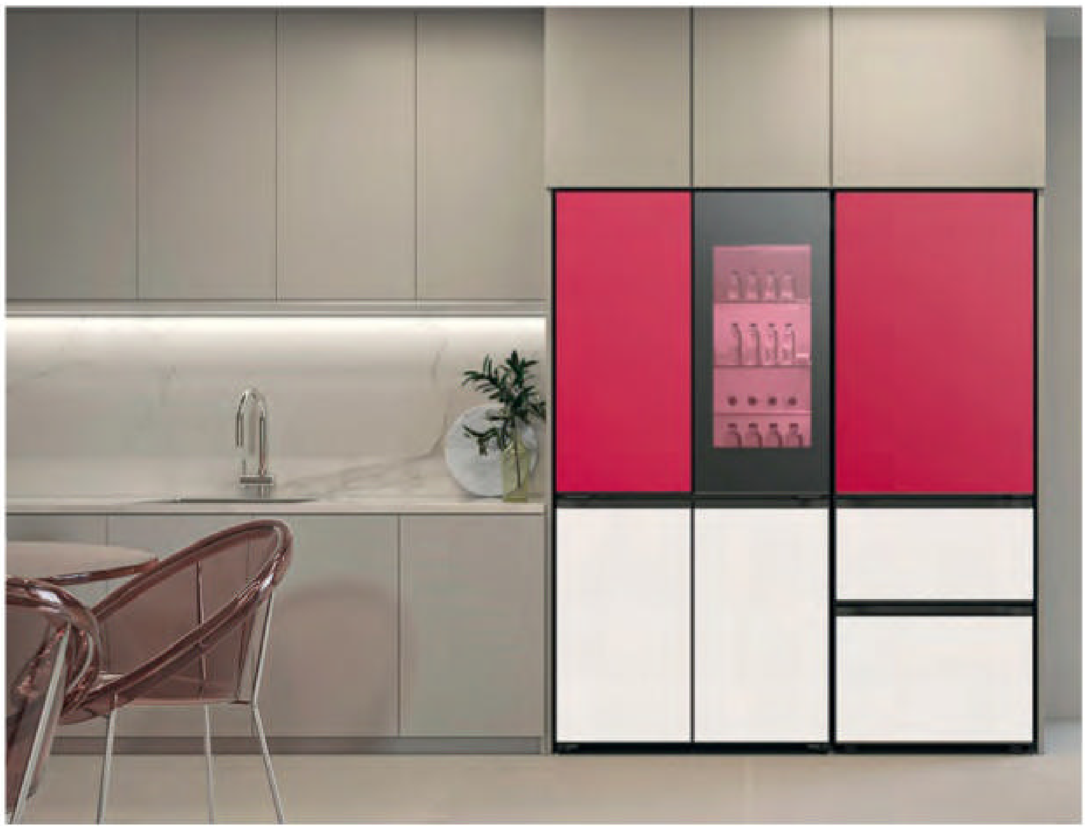
"I love a statement table lamp, and the sleek finish of the dark navy ombré on the Monte lamp took a lot of work to get right!"

Monte **LAMP,** $298, Renwil, renwil.com.

COOL COLOUR

Did you fall for Pantone's 2023 Color of the Year? Well, striking Viva Magenta is set to make an appearance on LG's 4-Door French-Door refrigerators equipped with the company's MoodUP feature. Simply use an app to dial up Viva Magenta or any of the 23 available colours and you can match your mood to your fridge. Feeling neutral? Turn off MoodUP and enjoy a blend of Lux Grey and Lux White – a combo that beautifully blends with natural stone countertops.

LG refrigerator with MoodUP, price on request, lg.com.



Memoria **TILES,** from $10 per square foot, Ciot, ciot.com.

TILE STYLE

The stunning Memoria collection from Ciot recalls the craftsmanship and manual skills of traditional potters, but with a contemporary spin. The material itself captures the subtle variations that actual handmade tiles from past times would feature. The patterns and beautiful hues reflect today's tastes, in colour families based on white, blue and dramatic black. Solid-colour tiles feature a semi-matte glaze, while the decorative patterned tiles come in a glossy glaze. The combinations for installation are only limited by your imagination.

A Place at the Table

Canadian retailer Hopson Grace recently launched a stunning collection of new placemats in their Cape Dorset collection. Kinngait, Nunavut, formerly known as Cape Dorset, is famous for the Inuit artists who have lived or worked in or near this village on Baffin Island. The deeply beautiful work by celebrated artists, including Ningeokuluk Teevee and the late Kenojuak Ashevak, will bring a peaceful, quiet reminder of the animals we share the planet with and help us appreciate the rich culture of our Indigenous population. A percentage of the proceeds from the sale of each mat will be donated to the artist or their estate.

Cape Dorset **PLACEMATS,** $45 each, Hopson Grace, hopsongrace.com.

1

Hop to It!

By now you've heard that it's the Chinese Year of the Rabbit. And since it's time for the annual visit of the giant chocolate-bearing bunny, we think now is a good time to highlight some charming Year of the Rabbit themed finds for the home.

2

3

4

1 Easter Bunny **DISH TOWEL,** $38, set of 3, Crate and Barrel, crateandbarrel.ca. **2 MONEY BANK,** $49, Jourès, joures.ca. **3** Toulouse Rabbit **ORNAMENT,** $620, Lalique, lalique.com. **4 RICE BOWL,** $85, set of 4, Our Place, fromourplace.ca.

Percale Venice Set (includes **FITTED SHEET, DUVET COVER** and two **PILLOWCASES**) in Wave, from $389, Parachute, parachutehome.com.

WHAT COUNTS IN BEDDING

Do you equate a high thread count with high-quality bed linens? Turns out, it's not so simple. More important than how many threads go into your sheets is the quality of the fibre. Purists say go for natural fibres like linen and cotton, and sheets woven from long, strong threads. Check the label. Look for long-staple fibres that are 100 percent cotton, linen or hemp, and organic, too, if you can. We love Parachute's luxe sheets made of cotton or linen – their soft brushed cotton is dreamy, but their organic cotton has our heart.

Melon linen **BEDDING,** from $99, Parachute, parachutehome.com.

SOFA, SO GOOD

Are you sitting down...on your sofa? If you are, and the comfort level is just so-so, maybe it's time for a new sofa? Noa Home wants you to try something new (and it's not just their great-looking Flow modular sectional). The online retailer wants you to buy your next sofa – you guessed it – online. Of course, many of us have already made home purchases online, but if you're feeling trepidatious about a sofa purchase, here are some tips from Noa Home.

Flow **SOFA,** $2,199, Noa Home, noahome.com.

- Check measurements; this applies to online and in-store purchases. Not only must the sofa be properly portioned to your room, but it's got to fit through the front door, too!
- Consider buying straight from direct-to-consumer businesses to get the best value.
- One important factor that determines comfort is the density of the seat cushions. The higher and denser the cushions, the better the sofa will be at supporting your weight without sagging.
- Read the product specifications on the materials to determine quality of the item, and check to see if other customers have bought the sofa and posted reviews or images in situ.

Sleep Well

Trying to decide between a traditional spring mattress or a foam one? The new Endy Hybrid might be your happy medium. You get extra support in the lumbar region thanks to the pocket coil construction, but also cool and cushy comfort from the foam. Endy's 100-night guarantee and free shipping offer stays the same.

From $975, endy.com.

CLEAN CHAMELEON

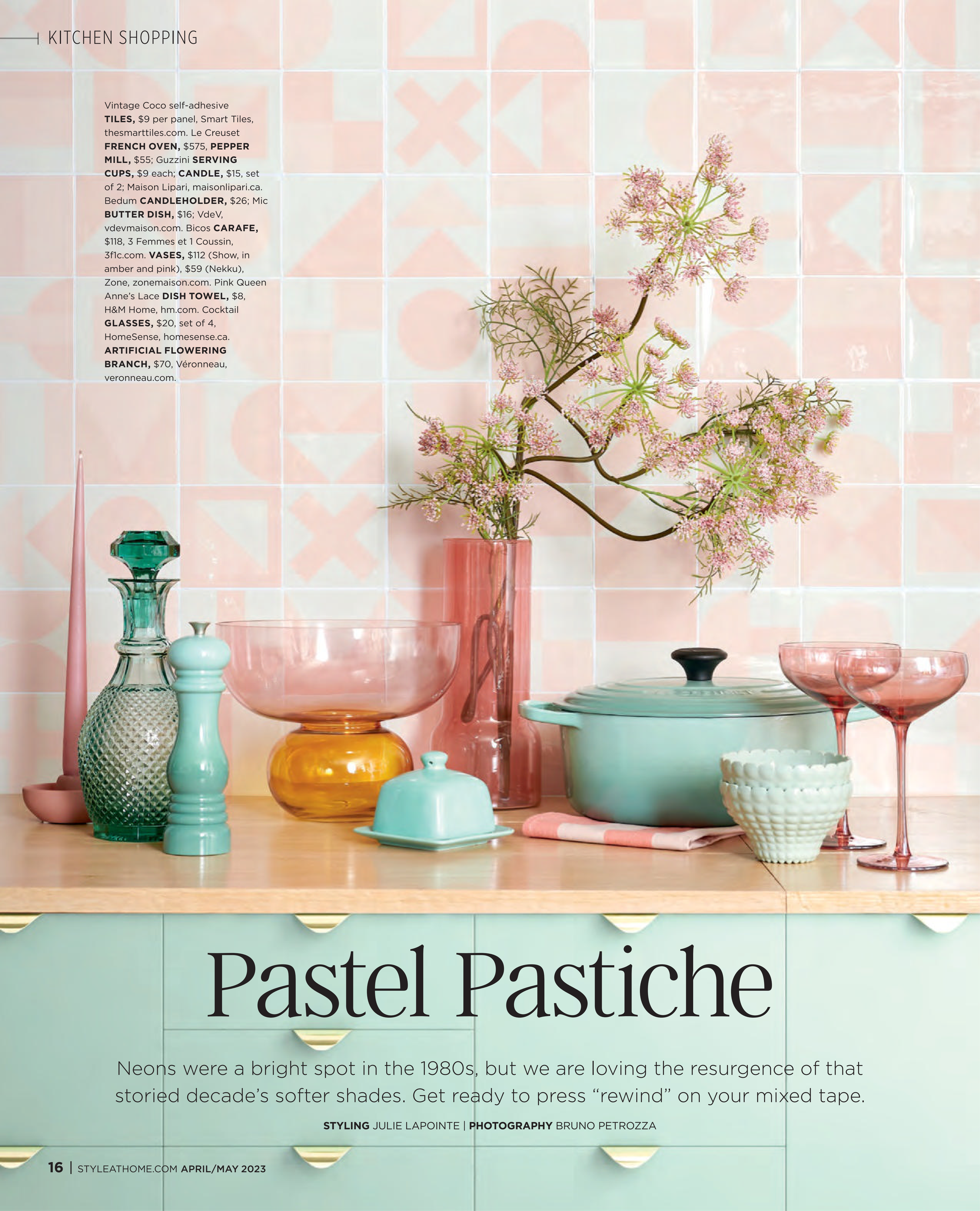
Clean air indoors is a concern for many, but bulky appliances might not be the look you're going for in the living room. Dupray's new Bloom Air Purifier Planter is designed to blend in with your decor. The nifty design lets you grow a real houseplant in the top section, while the bottom is fitted with a HEPA-13 medical-grade air filter that automatically detects and removes odours from rooms up to 1,100 square feet in size. Or if you are a DIYer, take out the plant pot, top with an attractive piece of wood and you've got a spot for your afternoon tea.

Bloom Air Purifier **PLANTER,** $325, Dupray, dupray.com.

LOOKING FOR DECORATING INSPIRATION?

visit styleathome.com

Join the community

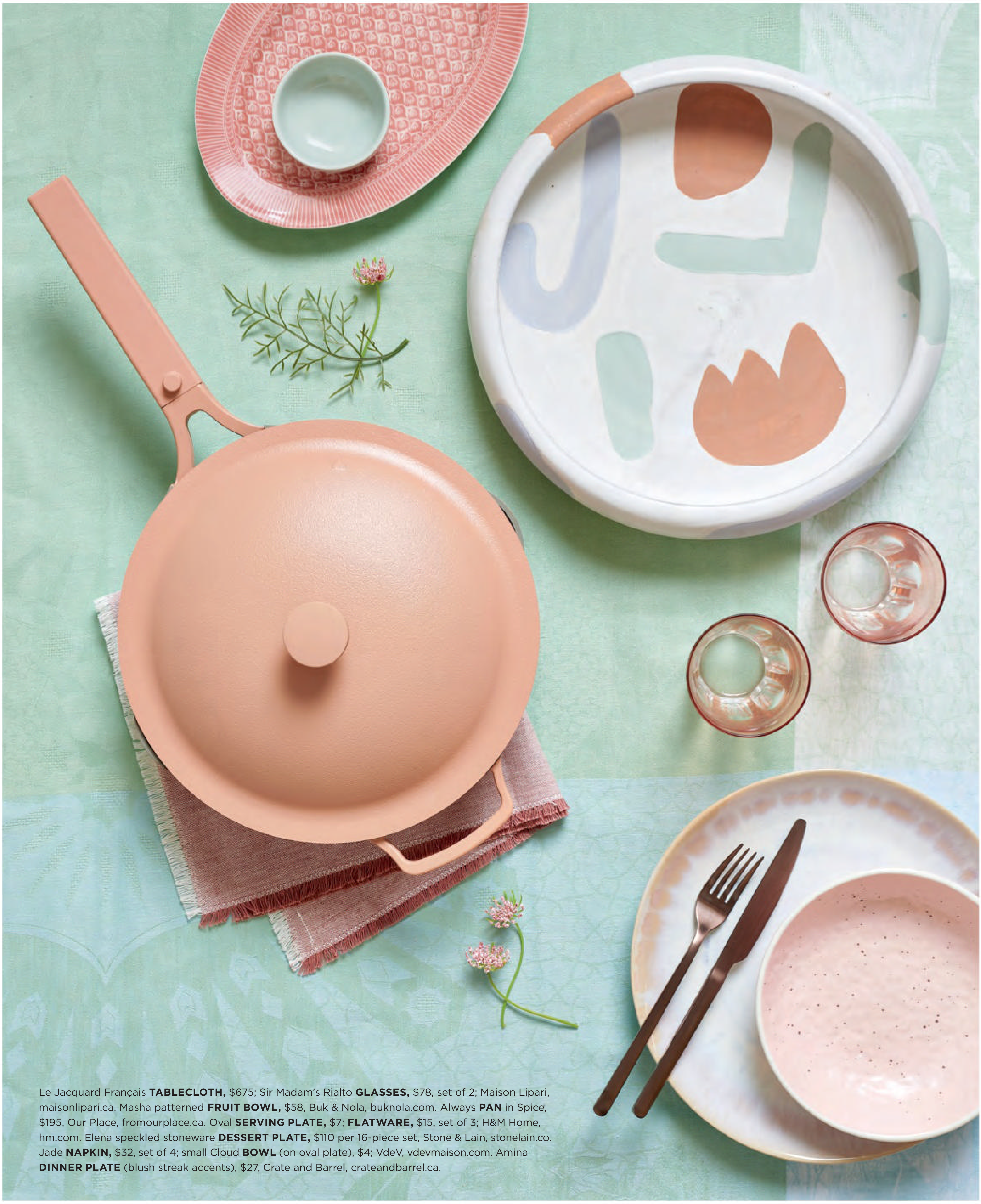


Pastel Pastiche

Neons were a bright spot in the 1980s, but we are loving the resurgence of that storied decade's softer shades. Get ready to press "rewind" on your mixed tape.

STYLING JULIE LAPOINTE | **PHOTOGRAPHY** BRUNO PETROZZA

Vintage Coco self-adhesive **TILES,** $9 per panel, Smart Tiles, thesmarttiles.com. Le Creuset **FRENCH OVEN,** $575, **PEPPER MILL,** $55; Guzzini **SERVING CUPS,** $9 each; **CANDLE,** $15, set of 2; Maison Lipari, maisonlipari.ca. Bedum **CANDLEHOLDER,** $26; Mic **BUTTER DISH,** $16; VdeV, vdevmaison.com. Bicos **CARAFE,** $118, 3 Femmes et 1 Coussin, 3f1c.com. **VASES,** $112 (Show, in amber and pink), $59 (Nekku), Zone, zonemaison.com. Pink Queen Anne's Lace **DISH TOWEL,** $8, H&M Home, hm.com. Cocktail **GLASSES,** $20, set of 4, HomeSense, homesense.ca. **ARTIFICIAL FLOWERING BRANCH,** $70, Véronneau, veronneau.com.



Le Jacquard Français **TABLECLOTH,** $675; Sir Madam's Rialto **GLASSES,** $78, set of 2; Maison Lipari, maisonlipari.ca. Masha patterned **FRUIT BOWL,** $58, Buk & Nola, buknola.com. Always **PAN** in Spice, $195, Our Place, fromourplace.ca. Oval **SERVING PLATE,** $7; **FLATWARE,** $15, set of 3; H&M Home, hm.com. Elena speckled stoneware **DESSERT PLATE,** $110 per 16-piece set, Stone & Lain, stonelain.co. Jade **NAPKIN,** $32, set of 4; small Cloud **BOWL** (on oval plate), $4; VdeV, vdevmaison.com. Amina **DINNER PLATE** (blush streak accents), $27, Crate and Barrel, crateandbarrel.ca.

Cloud Cluster Meringues

Every cloud should have a chocolate lining…if the clouds are melt-in-your-mouth meringue. Add a rainbow of sprinkles and you'll be on cloud nine.

PHOTOGRAPHY TANGO | **FOOD STYLING** NATALY SIMARD | **PROP STYLING** CAROLINE SIMON

INGREDIENTS

MAKES ABOUT 50 MERINGUES

4	large egg whites, at room temperature
½	tsp cream of tartar
1	cup granulated sugar
1¼	cups semisweet chocolate chips
2	tsp vegetable oil
1¼	cups rainbow sprinkles

tip

The secret to successful meringue is using really cold utensils. Place your bowl and whisk(s) in the freezer for 20 minutes before starting the recipe.

DIRECTIONS

In cold large bowl, beat egg whites with cream of tartar using electric mixer on medium speed until soft peaks form. Add sugar, 2 tablespoons at a time, beating until stiff glossy peaks form.

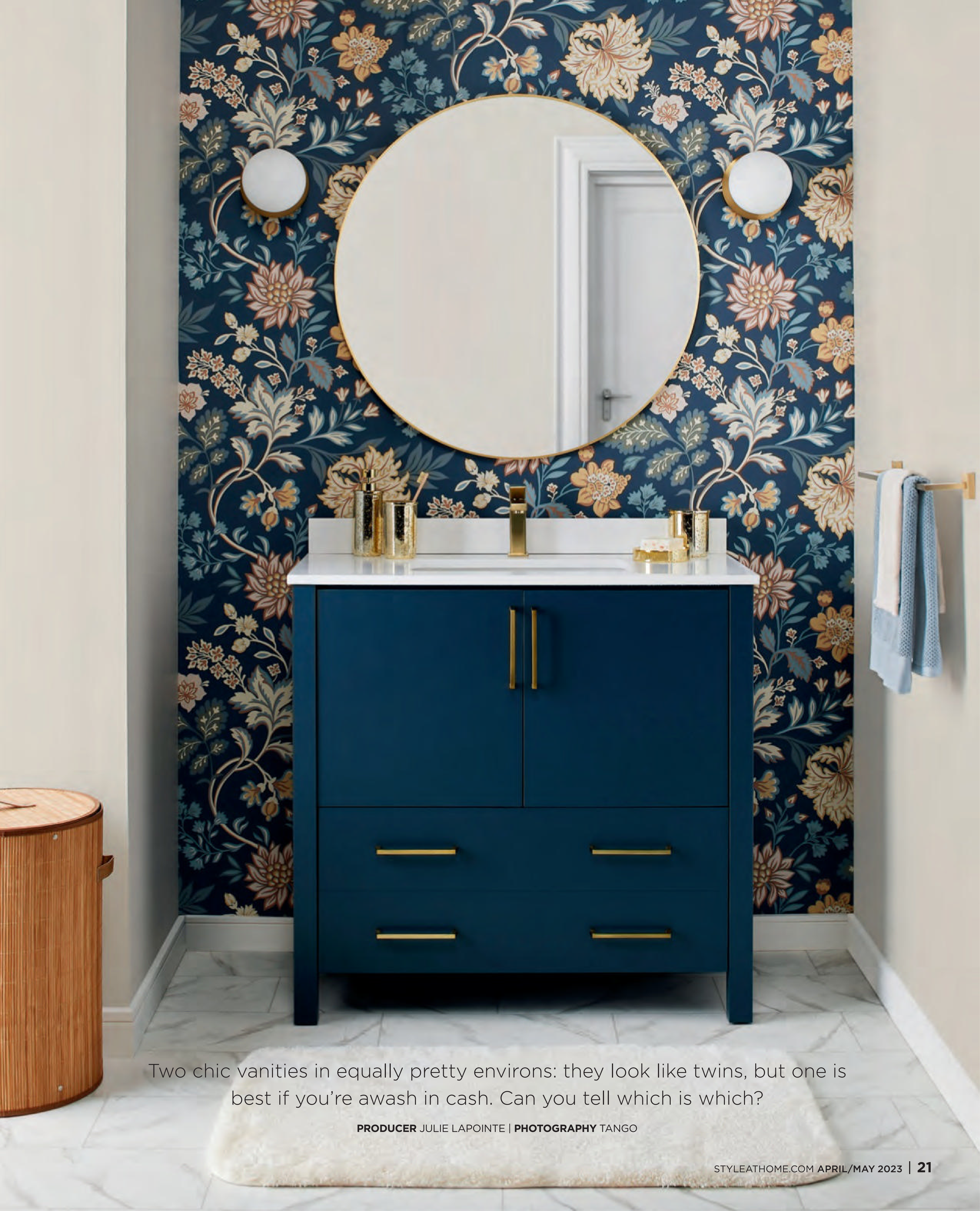
Preheat oven to 200°F. Line 2 baking sheets with parchment paper. Spoon egg white mixture into piping bag fitted with ½-inch round tip; on prepared baking sheets, pipe five ¾-inch round kisses in a cluster, 3 on bottom row and 2 on top row, ensuring they are touching each other. Place 1 sheet on rack in top third of oven and other in bottom third.

Bake until meringues are dry and firm, 1 hour 30 minutes. Leaving baking sheets in oven, turn off heat and let meringues rest for 1 hour. Place baking sheets on racks and let cool completely.

Meanwhile, in small microwaveable bowl, heat chocolate chips on high until they begin to melt, about 1 minute, stirring halfway through cooking time. Add oil, stirring until chocolate is completely melted. Place sprinkles on small plate.

Dip bottoms of cooled meringues in melted chocolate, allowing excess to drip off; dip in sprinkles. Return meringues to baking sheets and refrigerate until chocolate has set, about 15 minutes.

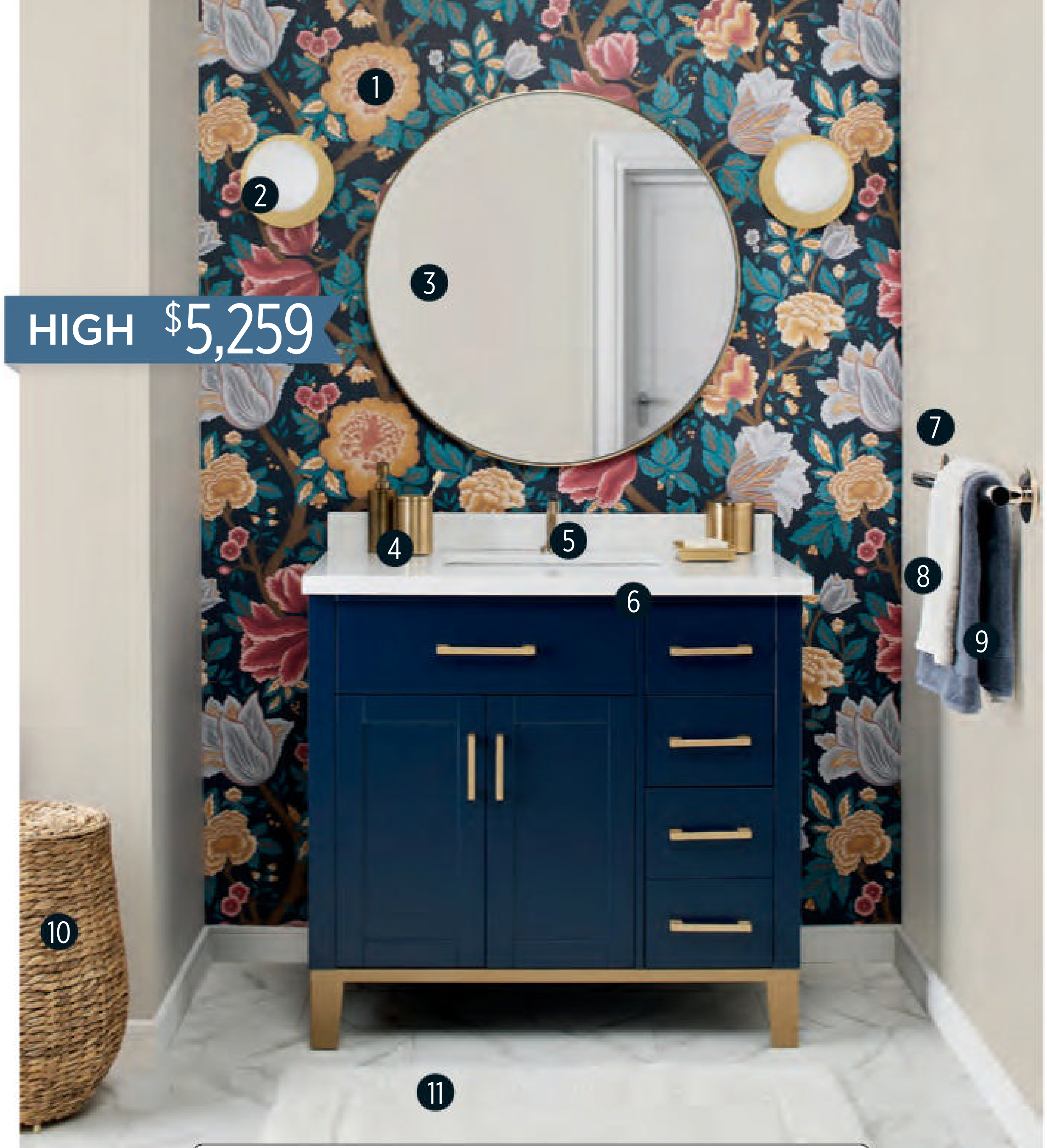
high OR low?



Two chic vanities in equally pretty environs: they look like twins, but one is best if you're awash in cash. Can you tell which is which?

PRODUCER JULIE LAPOINTE | **PHOTOGRAPHY** TANGO

HIGH $5,259



$540

1 Midsummer Bloom **WALLPAPER,** $270 per roll, Wallpaper Direct, wallpaperdirect.ca.

$610

2 Krema **SCONCES,** $305 each, Luminaire Authentik, luminaireauthentik.com.

$269

3 Erika **MIRROR,** Urban Barn, urbanbarn.com.

$429

4 Rémy **BATHROOM ACCESSORIES,** $125 (soap dispenser), $99 (tumbler), $85 (soap dish), $120 (canister), Design Louis George, designlouisgeorge.com.

$1,127

5 Kintsu **FAUCET,** Brizo, brizofaucet.ca.

$1,449

6 Seattle 36"-wide **VANITY** with white quartz top, Bain Dépôt, baindepot.com.

$278

7 TOWEL BAR, Brizo, brizofaucet.ca.

$69

8 White Abyss Egyptian cotton **HAND TOWEL,** Design Louis George, designlouisgeorge.com.

$34

9 Blue Turkish cotton **HAND TOWEL,** Parachute, parachutehome.com.

$75

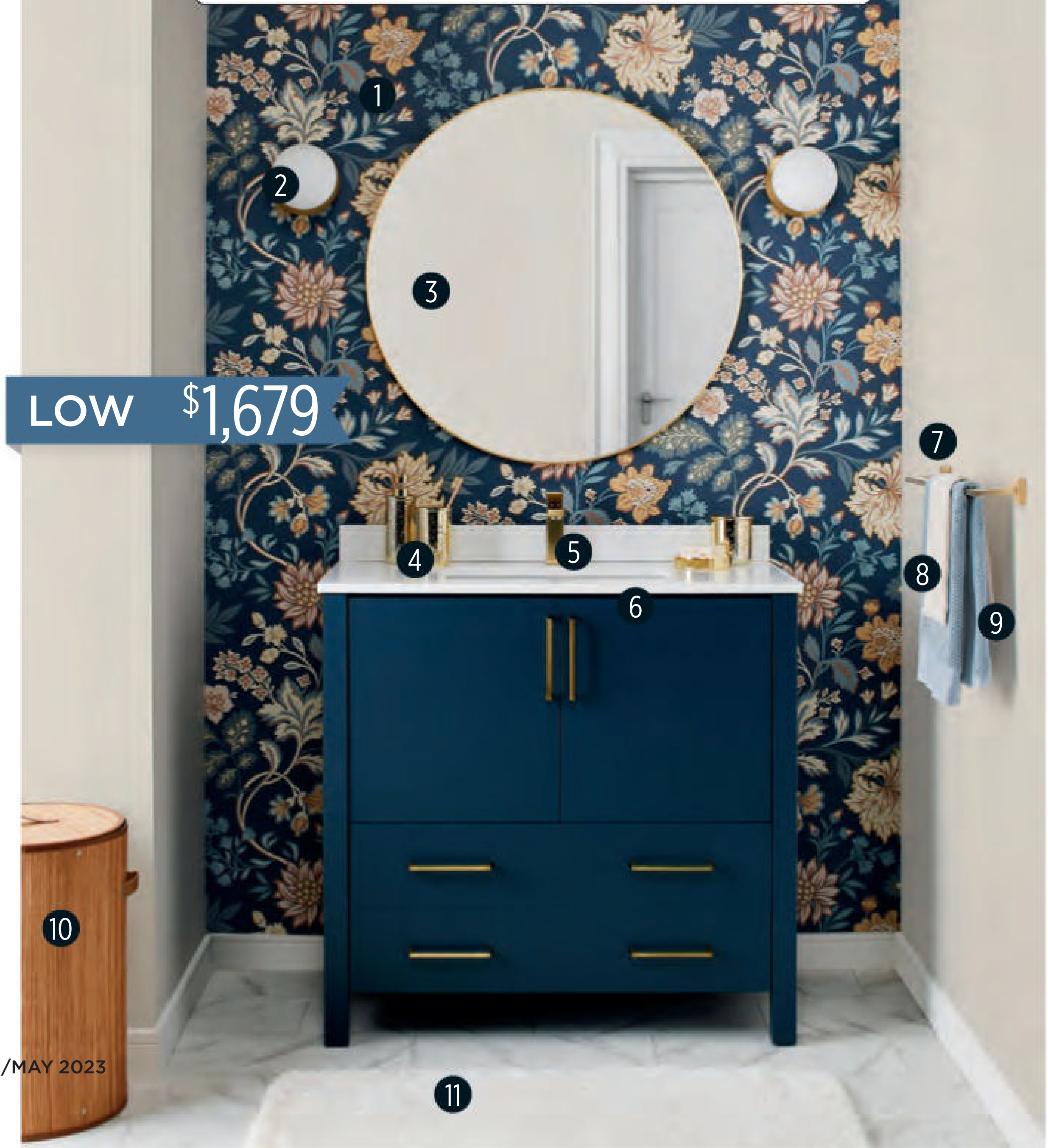
10 BASKET, Simons, simons.ca.

$379

11 Must by Habidecor **RUG,** Design Louis George, designlouisgeorge.com.

Carrara Bianca **VINYL ROLL FLOORING,** Lanctôt Couvre-sol Design, lanctotcsd.com.

LOW $1,679



$276

1 Alicia deep blue **WALLPAPER,** $138 per roll, Wallpaper Direct, wallpaperdirect.com.

$140

2 Burlat Opal **SCONCES,** $70 each, Zone, zonemaison.com.

$60

3 Lindbyn **MIRROR,** IKEA, ikea.ca.

$98

4 Skor **BATHROOM ACCESSORIES,** $28 (soap dispenser), $30 (canister), $20 each (tumbler and soap dish), Linen Chest, linenchest.com.

$139

5 Fame **FAUCET,** Bain Dépôt, baindepot.com.

$699

6 Lorenzo Ove 36"-wide **VANITY,** Rona, rona.ca.

$155

7 Set of 4 bathroom accessories with **TOWEL BAR,** Bain Dépôt, baindepot.com.

$14

8 White cotton terry **HAND TOWEL,** $13, set of 2, H&M Home, hm.com.

$8

9 Blue cotton terry **HAND TOWEL,** $8, set of 2, H&M Home, hm.com.

$40

10 Bamboo **BASKET,** Bouclair, bouclair.com.

$50

11 Royal Plush **RUG,** Linen Chest, linenchest.com.

1

Light Accents

Wall sconces are key to the look of your bathroom. This is your chance to have fun and make a statement. Just remember that for all their good looks, sconces serve a crucial function – to illuminate the mirror area. When choosing, make sure the fixtures won't cast shadows. This is one spot where you want a clear view.

2

3

1 Ardeo **SCONCE,** $249, Article, article.com. 2 Neptune travertine **SCONCE,** $379, CB2, cb2.ca. 3 Colin **SCONCES,** $399 each, Crate and Barrel, crateandbarrel.ca.

Oh, Vanity!

Want to add a splash of colour in the bathroom without committing to coloured tiles or walls? The vanity is the perfect spot. We like this one because it combines open and closed storage. Display rolled towels on the shelf for easy access, and hide the hair dryer and cleaning supplies behind the doors. The gold handles and faucet elevate the style quotient and are right on trend.

> The vanity is usually the only real piece of furniture in the bathroom, so choose one that sets the style of the space.

Sand & Stable's Jewell ceramic-top 24"-wide **VANITY,** $530, Wayfair, wayfair.ca.

COUNTER STYLE

Display your lotions and potions in bewitching style to keep the vanity clear of visual clutter.

HIGH

$71

Avalon, Amara, amara.com.

$50

Zara Home, zarahome.com.

$18

H&M Home, hm.com.

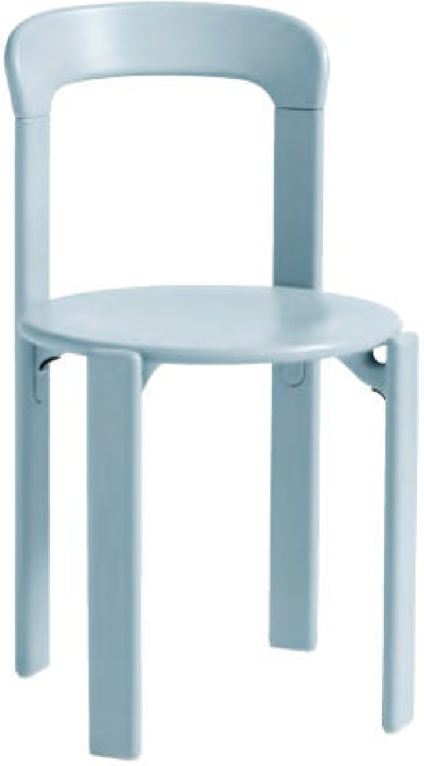
$9

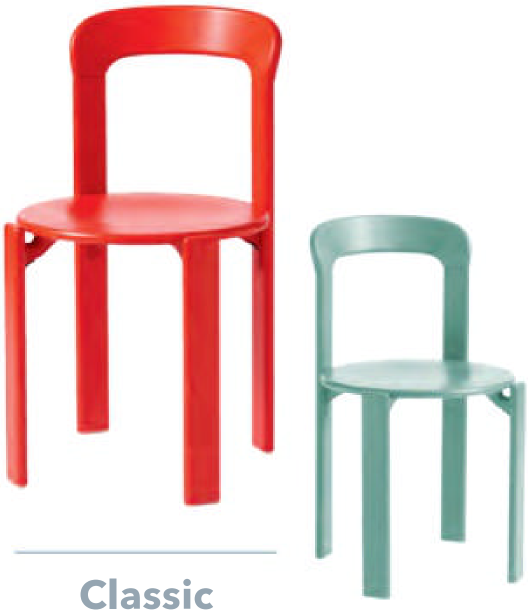
Ekoln, IKEA, ikea.ca.

LOW

Coloured Kitchen Chairs

Arren Williams brightens our day with this look at the history of our obsession with happy-hued chairs.





Classic

Rey **CHAIR,** $745, Hay, hay.com.

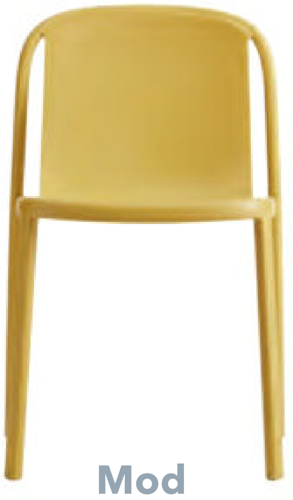
The classic Rey Chair by Bruno Rey is part of a collection that includes equally colourful stools and dining tables.

We're all for a bold design choice and a strong hit of colour, which is why we're down with this latest dining chair trend. Truth be told, the idea of chairs in bold tints has been key in Scandi style for decades, brightening the scene in all styles of homes, from white-painted cottages to chic contemporary spaces.

The recently reissued Rey Chair from the folks at cool Danish design firm Hay is definitely all in on this look. Known for their modern take on living stylishly, they've dipped into the '70s and brought back Swiss designer Bruno Rey's eponymously named beechwood chair. The Rey is ready to make a statement in nine shades, ranging from subtle to snappy. We're torn between the softly subtle Mint Green versus Scarlet Red, which just hits it out of the park. But while colour is key to making this style work, so too is the simplicity of the design. Nothing fussy here, please and thanks.

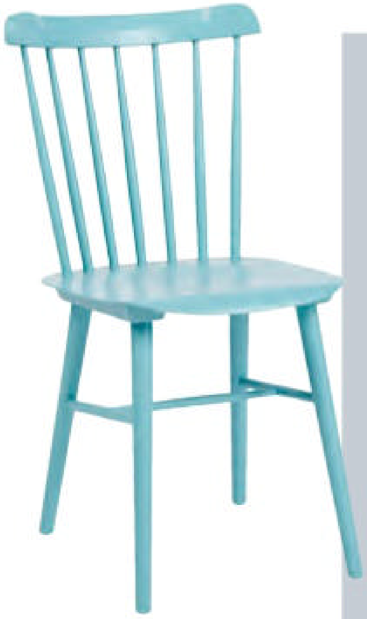
While the Rey delivers on modern form, the trad Windsor chair also has a colourful past. Windsors have been painted in primary colours since the 18th century, so it's no surprise they continue to feel relevant, especially in the more simplified designs we see now – no hoop back and bobbin turned legs, but retaining their trademark spindles. The beechwood Ironica Chair from Smart Idea is just such a seat, available in a dizzying 20 colours. For that eco-vibe, check out the lines on Blu Dot's recycled plastic Decade Chair. Pop this chair around the table either inside or out, in any of its seven tasty shades (like Tomato and Mustard!), and you've got a mouthwateringly stylish setting indeed.

WORTHY COMPETITORS



Mod

Recycled plastic Decade **CHAIR,** US$150, Blu Dot, bludot.com.



Trad

Beechwood Ironica **CHAIR,** $449, Smart Idea, smartideachairs.com.

THE ITALIAN
SENSE
OF BEAUTY
SCAVOLINI™

MUSA design Vuesse

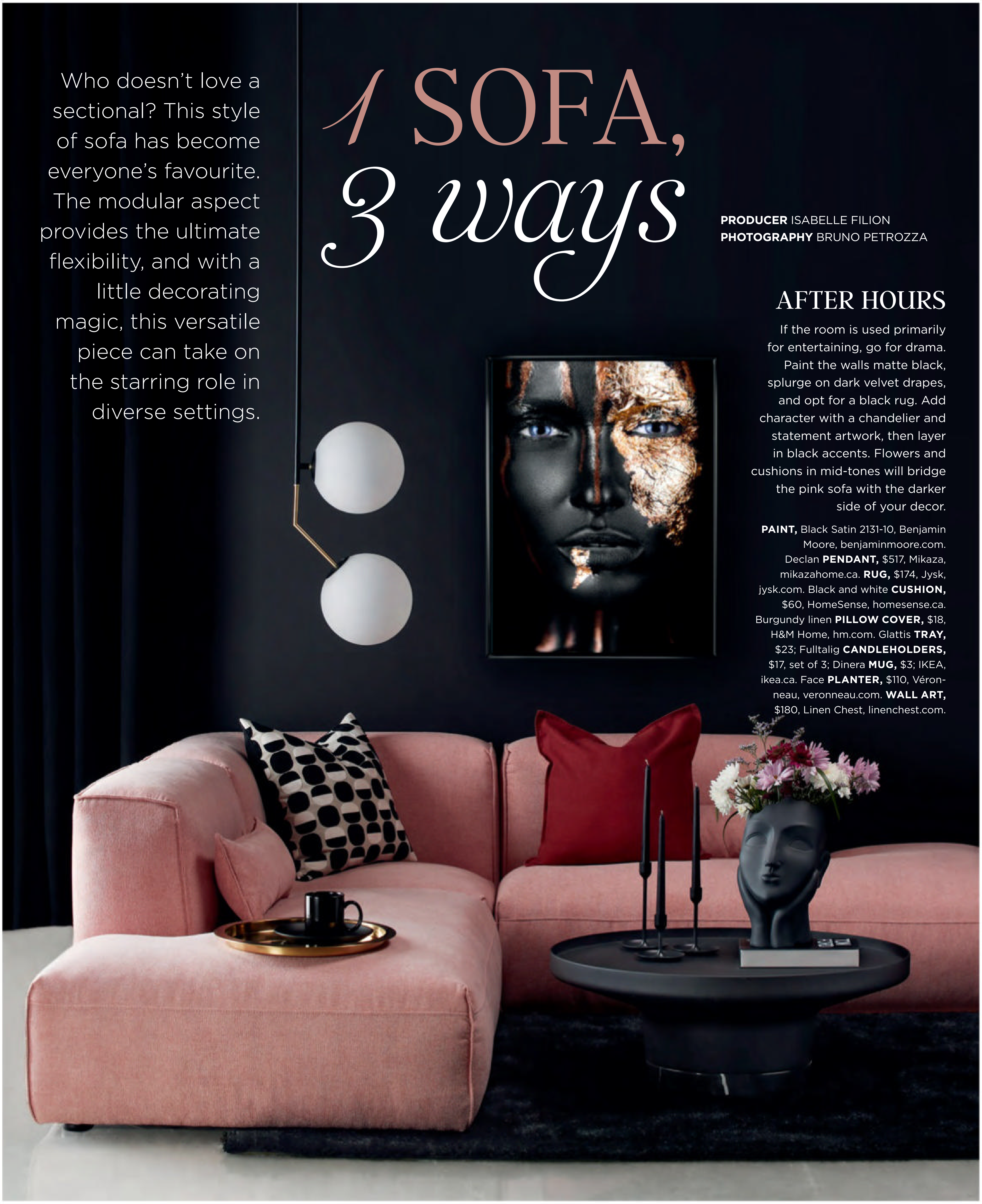
KITCHENS, LIVING AND BATHROOMS

SCAVOLINI IN CANADA
SCAVOLINI STORE TORONTO 1330 Castlefield Ave, Toronto, Tel: 416.961.2929 - **SIEMA KITCHEN AND BATH** 1854 W 4th Ave, Vancouver Tel: 604.569.1530

SCAVOLINI IN USA
Flagship Stores SoHo, Manhattan NY - **Midtown, Manhattan** NY - **Miami,** FL - **Las Vegas,** NV
Brooklyn, NY - **Los Angeles,** CA - **Orange County,** CA - **Roseville,** CA - **San Gabriel,** CA - **Aventura,** FL - **Chicago,** IL - **Boston,** MA - **Detroit,** MI - **Bergen County,** NJ - **San Juan,** PR

For business opportunities Scavolini USA, Inc. Tel. +1 212.334.6776 - contact@scavoliniusa.com
Scavolini S.p.A. Italy +39 0721443333 - contact@scavolini.com - www.scavolini.com

MADE IN ITALY CERTIFIED



Who doesn't love a sectional? This style of sofa has become everyone's favourite. The modular aspect provides the ultimate flexibility, and with a little decorating magic, this versatile piece can take on the starring role in diverse settings.

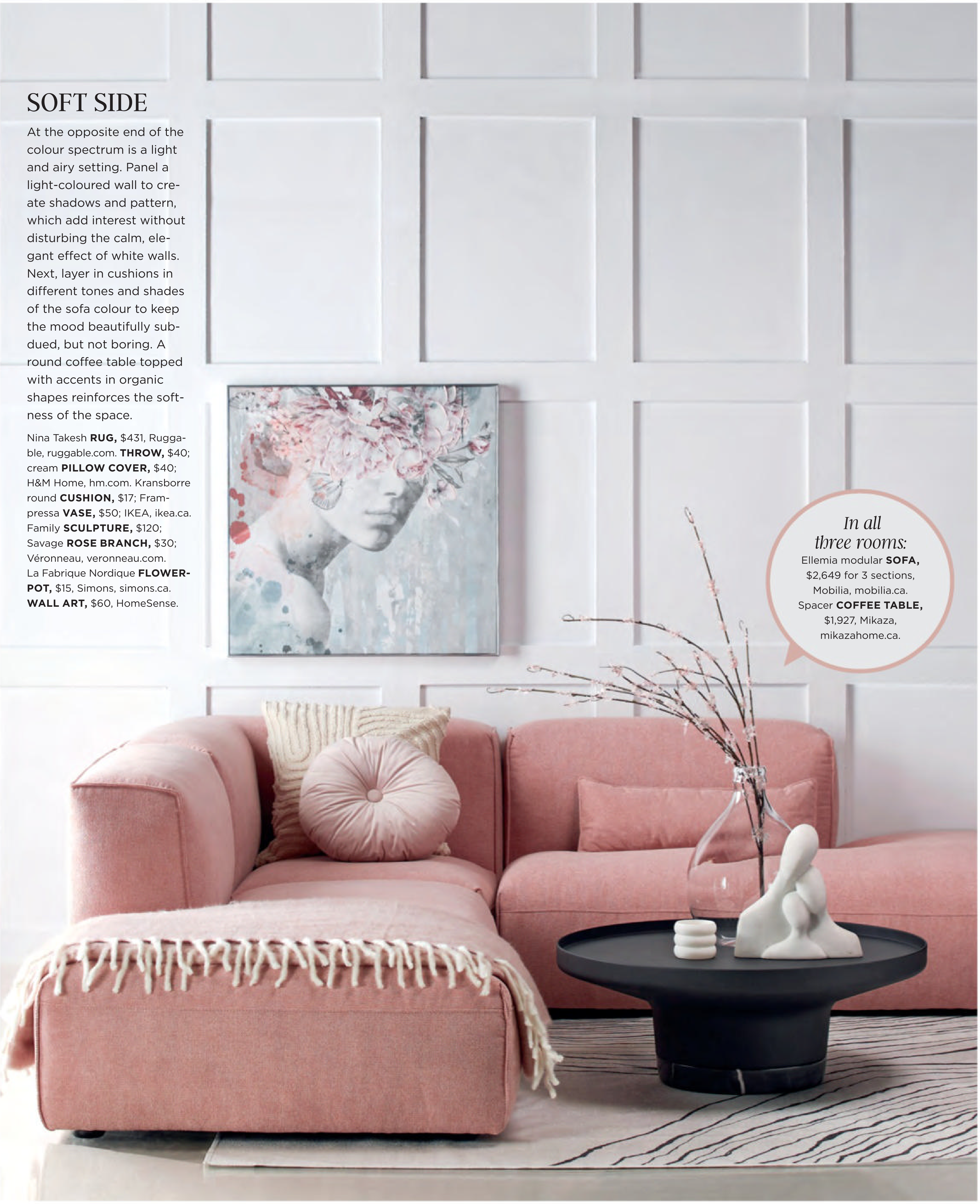
1 SOFA, 3 ways

PRODUCER ISABELLE FILION
PHOTOGRAPHY BRUNO PETROZZA

AFTER HOURS

If the room is used primarily for entertaining, go for drama. Paint the walls matte black, splurge on dark velvet drapes, and opt for a black rug. Add character with a chandelier and statement artwork, then layer in black accents. Flowers and cushions in mid-tones will bridge the pink sofa with the darker side of your decor.

PAINT, Black Satin 2131-10, Benjamin Moore, benjaminmoore.com. Declan **PENDANT,** $517, Mikaza, mikazahome.ca. **RUG,** $174, Jysk, jysk.com. Black and white **CUSHION,** $60, HomeSense, homesense.ca. Burgundy linen **PILLOW COVER,** $18, H&M Home, hm.com. Glattis **TRAY,** $23; Fulltalig **CANDLEHOLDERS,** $17, set of 3; Dinera **MUG,** $3; IKEA, ikea.ca. Face **PLANTER,** $110, Véronneau, veronneau.com. **WALL ART,** $180, Linen Chest, linenchest.com.

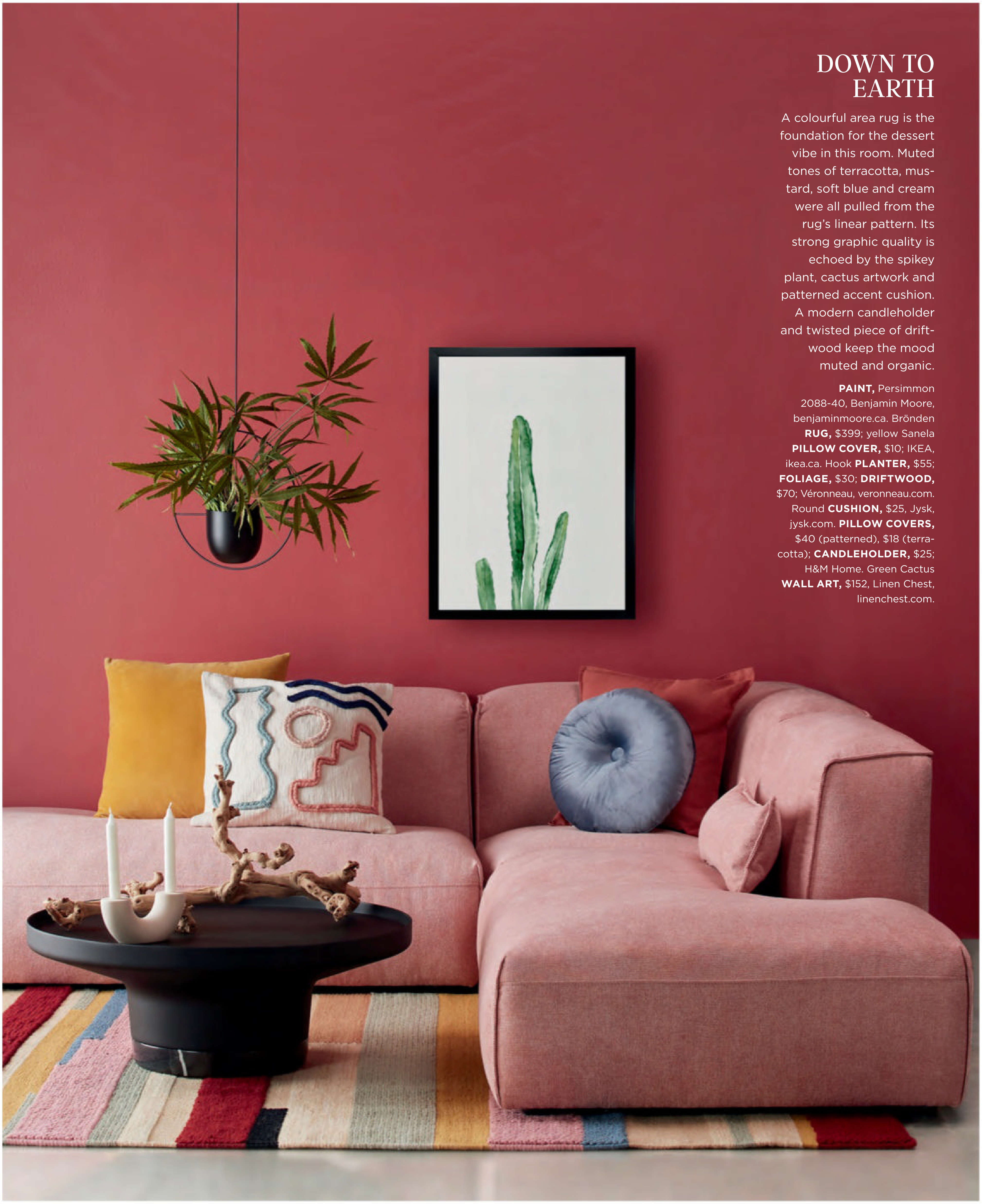


SOFT SIDE

At the opposite end of the colour spectrum is a light and airy setting. Panel a light-coloured wall to create shadows and pattern, which add interest without disturbing the calm, elegant effect of white walls. Next, layer in cushions in different tones and shades of the sofa colour to keep the mood beautifully subdued, but not boring. A round coffee table topped with accents in organic shapes reinforces the softness of the space.

Nina Takesh **RUG,** $431, Ruggable, ruggable.com. **THROW,** $40; cream **PILLOW COVER,** $40; H&M Home, hm.com. Kransborre round **CUSHION,** $17; Frampressa **VASE,** $50; IKEA, ikea.ca. Family **SCULPTURE,** $120; Savage **ROSE BRANCH,** $30; Véronneau, veronneau.com. La Fabrique Nordique **FLOWERPOT,** $15, Simons, simons.ca. **WALL ART,** $60, HomeSense.

In all three rooms:
Ellemia modular **SOFA,** $2,649 for 3 sections, Mobilia, mobilia.ca. Spacer **COFFEE TABLE,** $1,927, Mikaza, mikazahome.ca.



DOWN TO EARTH

A colourful area rug is the foundation for the dessert vibe in this room. Muted tones of terracotta, mustard, soft blue and cream were all pulled from the rug's linear pattern. Its strong graphic quality is echoed by the spikey plant, cactus artwork and patterned accent cushion. A modern candleholder and twisted piece of driftwood keep the mood muted and organic.

PAINT, Persimmon 2088-40, Benjamin Moore, benjaminmoore.ca. Brönden **RUG,** $399; yellow Sanela **PILLOW COVER,** $10; IKEA, ikea.ca. Hook **PLANTER,** $55; **FOLIAGE,** $30; **DRIFTWOOD,** $70; Véronneau, veronneau.com. Round **CUSHION,** $25, Jysk, jysk.com. **PILLOW COVERS,** $40 (patterned), $18 (terracotta); **CANDLEHOLDER,** $25; H&M Home. Green Cactus **WALL ART,** $152, Linen Chest, linenchest.com.

You’ve pinned it. Now paint it.

Introducing Colour Spark™ pre-tinted paints from Rust-Oleum®.

Designer-curated paints that make getting to your perfect shade *seamless*.

TRUSTED QUALITY SINCE 1921
RUST-OLEUM
COLOUR SPARK
ADVANCED
PAINT + PRIMER
EGGSHELL
INTERIOR
PRE-TINTED DESIGNER COLOURS | 100% ACRYLIC
Ready-to-Use | Highly Durable & Washable | Mould & Mildew Resistant Coating
LIGHT CREAM | 346 | 3.78 L

LIGHT CREAM I SC346

Find your perfect shade in-store at Walmart or order online at colourspark.ca

COLOUR SPARK RUST-OLEUM

Colour Ways

Samantha Pynn shows us how to bring a new hue home.

Paint is the quickest way to change the look of a room, but painting the walls is just one way to transform a space. Depending on your tolerance for colour, paint can work its magic in big applications, small gestures and everything in between. Just remember, however you use paint, the colour will impact every element in the room. Follow along for tips on different ways to use paint and how to make sure the new hue works in your decor.

White Heron OC-57, Benjamin Moore

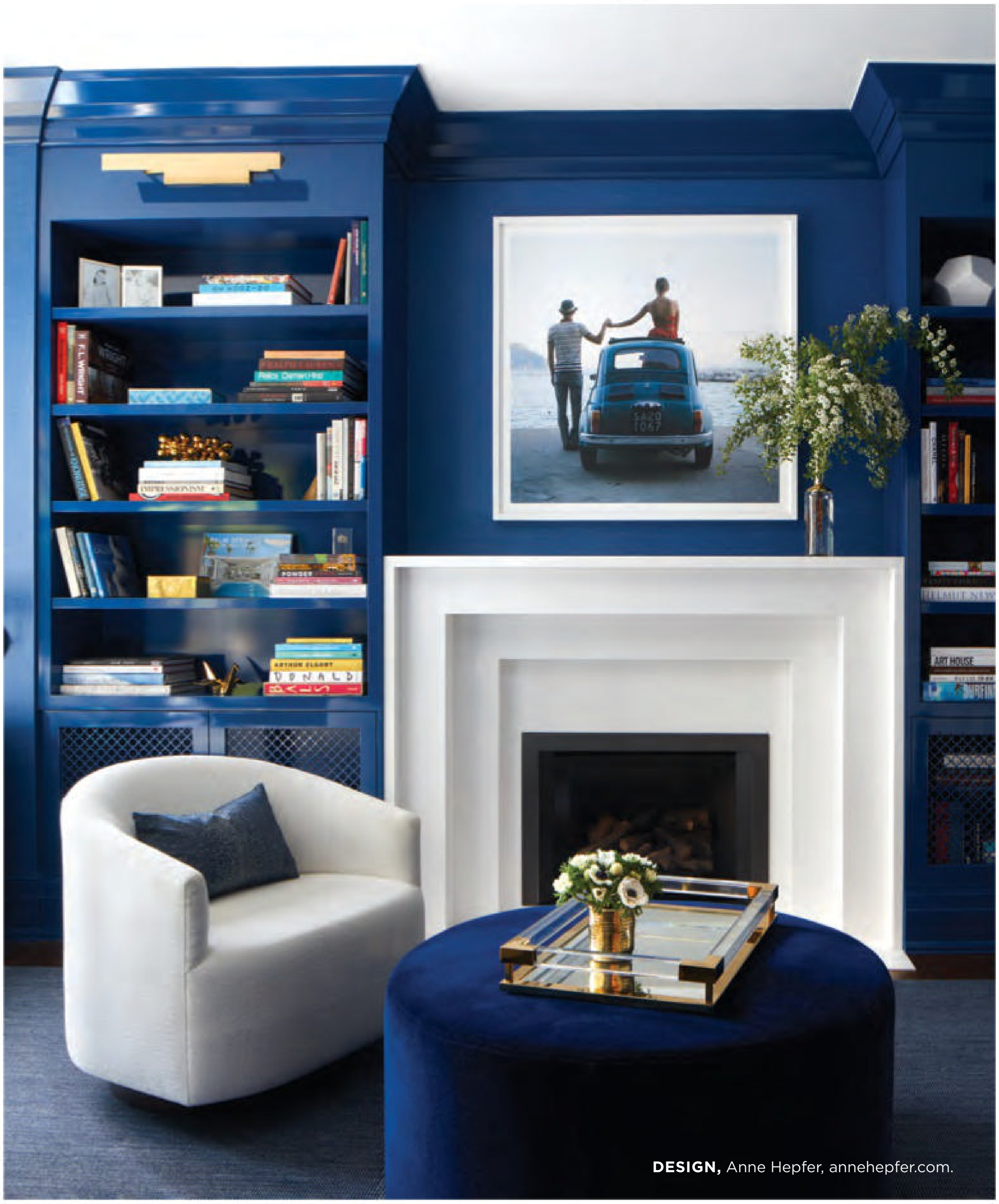
Starry Night 2067-20, Benjamin Moore

Princeton Gold HC-14, Benjamin Moore

Teal 2055-10, Benjamin Moore

Colour with Confidence

If you're painting a room an eye-catching new colour, any furnishing in a soft neutral will work with it. Think: a sand-toned linen sofa, wooden case goods and natural stone. Sometimes, layering in pillows, throws and accessories in tones similar to the new hue is enough to help it look at home in your existing decor, but to make a newly painted space really sing and look connected, you'll likely need to swap in a larger upholstered piece or a rug in the same hue. In the den designed by Anne Hepfer, shown at right and featured in her new book, *Mood,* she spray-painted the shelves, baseboards and crown moulding a glossy cobalt blue, then added texture and depth with a round velvet ottoman, grasscloth wallpaper and a wool rug. The white swivel chair and white quartz mantel visually break the sea of blue for a crisp look. As finishing and bridging touches, Anne chose blue and white art above the mantel and repeated brass details to give the jewel-tone blue a luxe vibe. Fresh greenery enlivens the space.



DESIGN, Anne Hepfer, annehepfer.com.

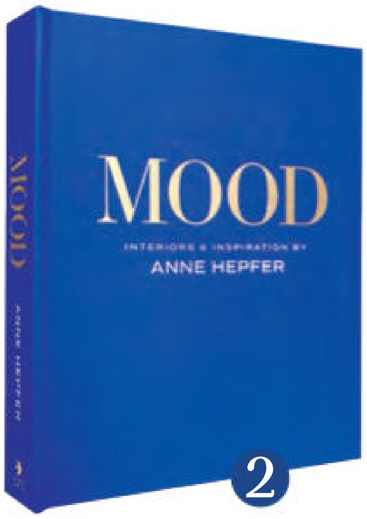
PORTRAIT PHOTOGRAPHY, HGTV CANADA. ROOM PHOTOGRAPHY, VIRGINIA MACDONALD

The Middle Way

Often, when we want a good dose of colour via paint, we opt for a feature wall, which works well behind a bed, surrounding a fireplace, and on a staircase wall. It's key to connect the dots between a white wall and feature wall with unifying art and furniture. That said, because an accent wall can make a room look unfinished – as if you ran out of paint midway – I prefer to paint a ceiling, or add an unexpected hue on doors and door trim, or a bold colour above white wainscotting. I love how a matte sky blue or pale green ceiling feels like a calming breath of fresh air, and how glossy painted doors and door frames make a beautiful colour connection that leads the eye throughout your home.

1

1 Swanson **PICTURE LIGHT,** $258, Renwil, renwil.com.



2

3

4

5

THE LABYRINTH

6

2 **BOOK,** *Mood: Interiors & Inspiration* by Anne Hepfer, annehepfer.com. **3** Daria ceramic **TABLE LAMP,** $298, Renwil, renwil.com. **4** Tripod raw brass **SIDE TABLE,** $375, Elte Mkt, eltemkt.com. **5** Sculpt dark blue velvet **ACCENT CHAIR,** $1,399, Crate and Barrel, crateandbarrel.ca. **6** Ice Jade green marble **BOOKENDS,** $90 each, CB2, cb2.ca.

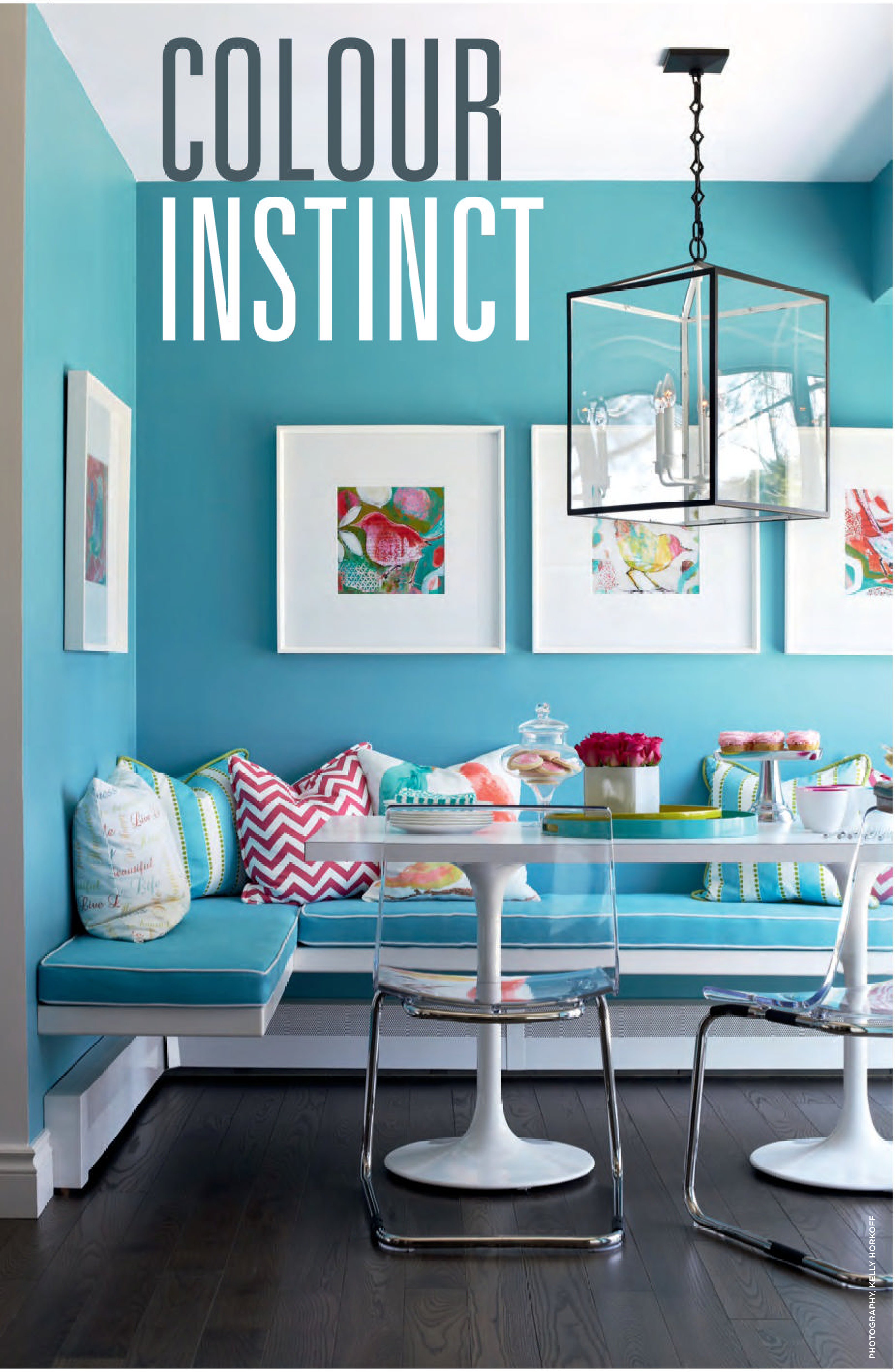
A Strong Accent

Painting small elements in a room is a powerful decorating device. Confession: I love painting everything from mirrors, lamps and vases to side tables, picture frames and furniture legs. When I was a kid, I insisted on painting things to "make them match." These days, we want a layered, tone-on-tone look rather than matchy, but I had the right idea! To blend a piece with your decor, paint it the same colour as your walls and watch it camouflage like a chameleon on a cactus. If you want something to stand out or you want to connect it with a favourite pillow, for example, pull your paint colour directly from the fabric. I'm a firm believer in working with what you have, and if a piece isn't working for you, paint it!

Pro Paint Tips

- Have fabric samples, pillowcases or even a sofa cushion on hand when selecting a paint colour.
- Always test bold paint colours in your space – natural light impacts the intensity and tone of a colour.
- Glossy paint is highly reflective and works best on very smooth walls.
- Flat paint is forgiving on textured walls and minimizes imperfections.
- Have a professional spray-paint vanities, dining tables and coffee tables for durability and a flawless finish.

COLOUR INSTINCT



PHOTOGRAPHY, KELLY HORKOFF

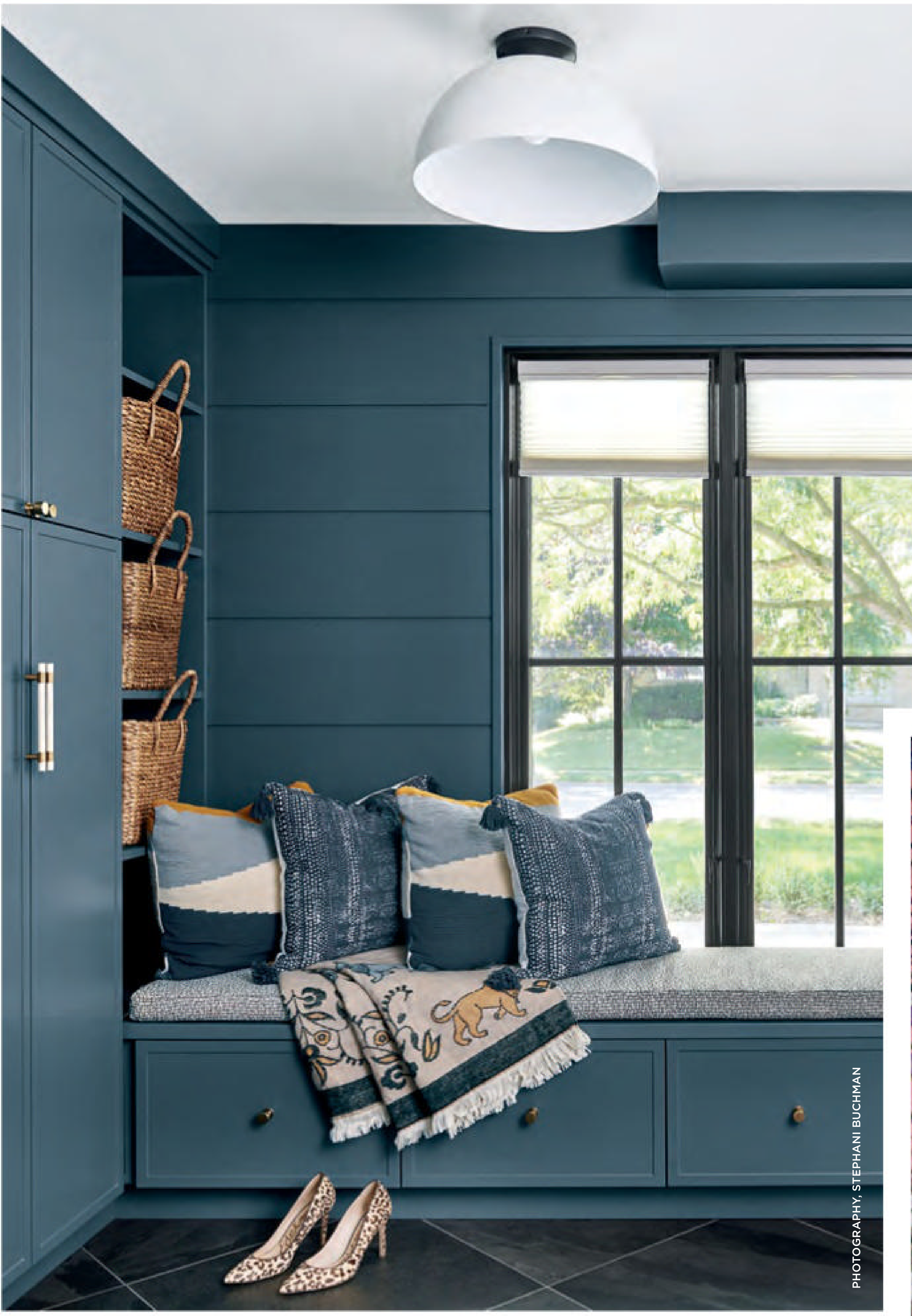
When it comes to choosing colour, go with that little voice inside that breaks into song when you see a shade you love. We've picked charming hues inspired by expertly designed spaces. One just might capture your heart.

Spa Day

CSP-635, Benjamin Moore,
benjaminmoore.ca

Designer Sarah St. Amand's client wanted to wake up her breakfast room with bright colour. This happy aqua shade brings to mind cool, shimmering swimming pools on a hot summer day. It serves as a lighthearted backdrop for a colourful collection of fabrics and artwork.

DESIGN, Sarah St. Amand,
Sarah St. Amand Interior Design,
stamanddesign.com.



PHOTOGRAPHY, STEPHANI BUCHMAN

Newburg Green

HC-158, Benjamin Moore, benjaminmoore.ca

To elevate this mudroom from humdrum to home run, designer Lisa Kooistra chose a moody teal tone that complements the grey tiles and black window frame beautifully. Upholstery in grey and a bevy of blue cushions pull the palette together.

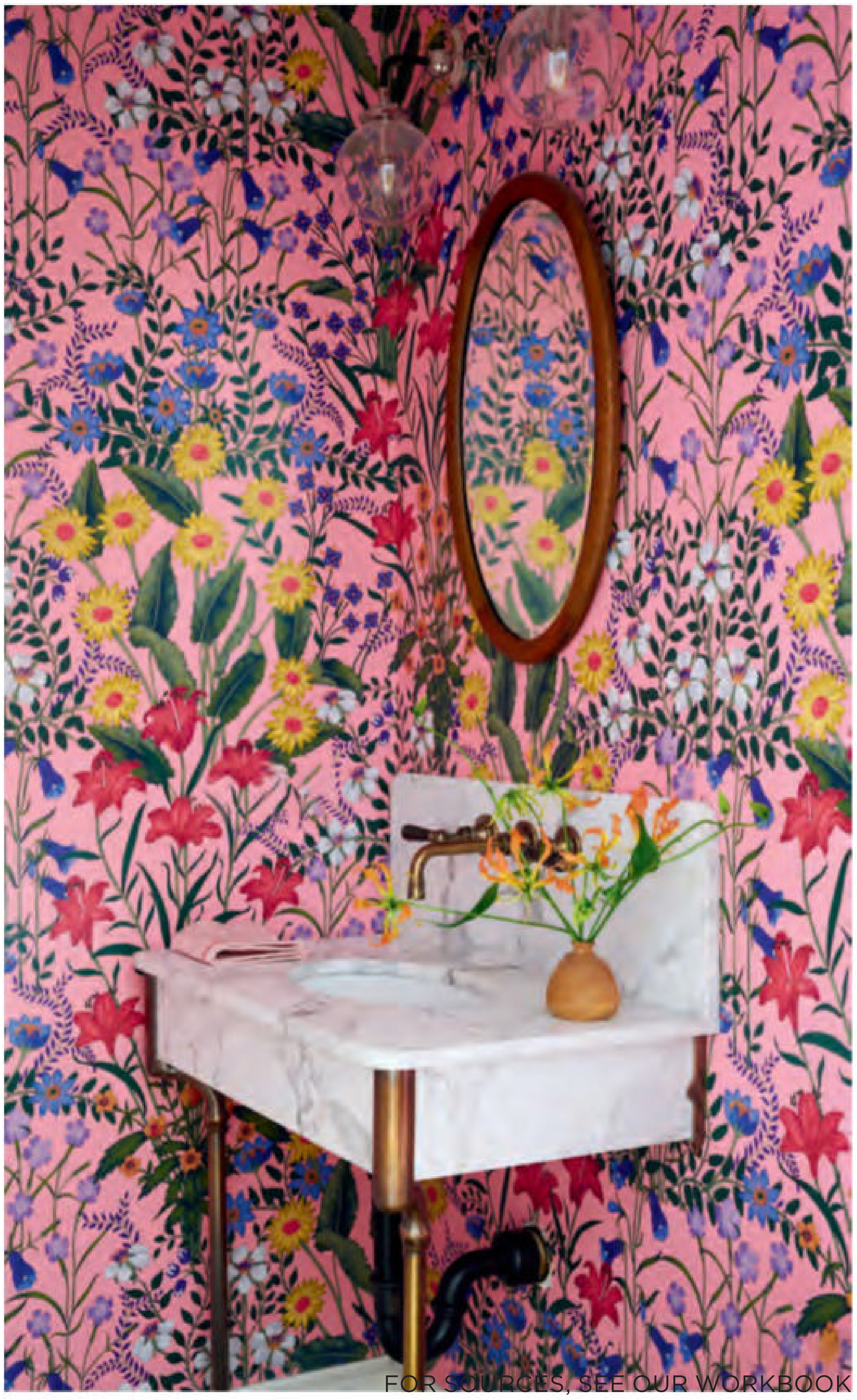
DESIGN, Lisa Kooistra, Lisa Kooistra Designs, lkdesigns.ca.

It's a Girl

P130-4, Behr, behr.ca

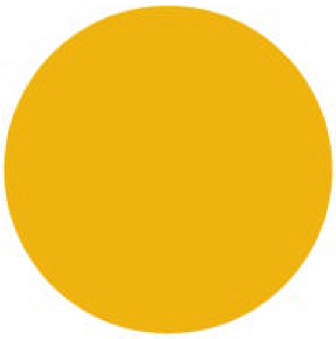
We hear it all the time: dare to go big on style in the powder room. The Novogratz (husband and wife duo Robert and Cortney) aren't exactly wallflowers in their approach to design, and this pink paradise proves it. This garden of delights puts the petals to the metal: note the mix of wild pattern and colours with the classic pedestal sink that's dressed up with a burnished gold faucet and detailing.

DESIGN, Robert and Cortney Novogratz, The Novogratz, thenovogratz.com. New Flora **WALLPAPER,** Gucci, gucci.com.



PHOTOGRAPHY, WILLIAM WALDRON

FOR SOURCES, SEE OUR WORKBOOK

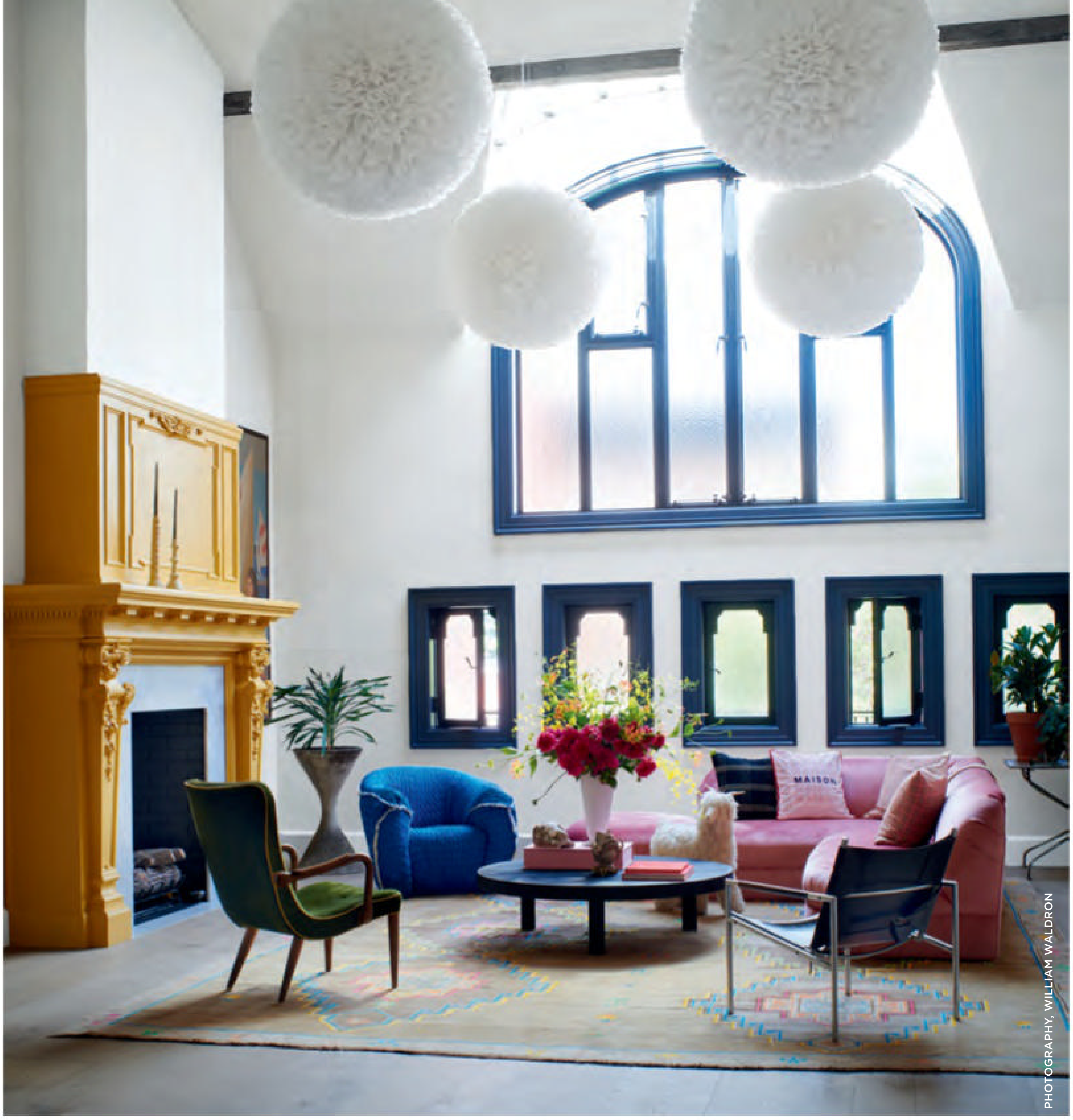


Sunflower

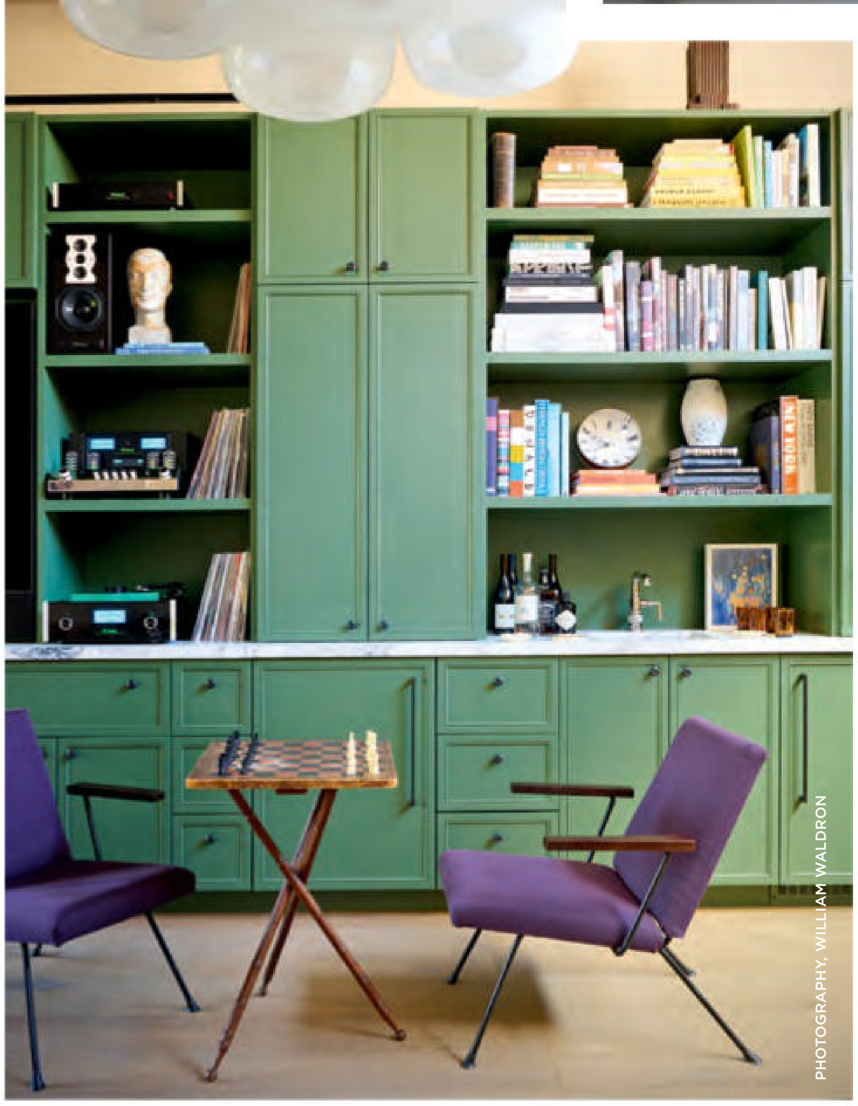
2019-30, Benjamin Moore, benjaminmoore.ca

Another space by The Novogratz dazzles in Robert and Cortney's typically dramatic style. The imposing fireplace burns bright day or night in a sunny shade of yellow that sits comfortably with a rainbow of upholstered pieces. The feathery light fixtures bring dimension to the lofty ceiling heights in this fun but sophisticated room.

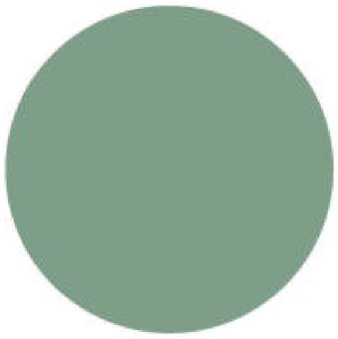
DESIGN, Robert and Cortney Novogratz, The Novogratz, thenovogratz.com. **MANTEL,** Olde Good Things, ogtstore.com. **PENDANTS,** Heike Buchfelder, pluma-cubic.com. Blue **CHAIR,** Tokujin Yoshioka, tokujin.com.



PHOTOGRAPHY, WILLIAM WALDRON



PHOTOGRAPHY, WILLIAM WALDRON

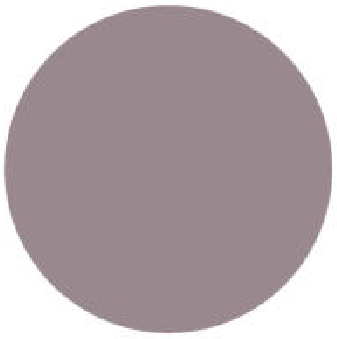


Lehigh Green

HC-131, Benjamin Moore, benjaminmoore.ca

The Novogratz had the handsome millwork built by a cabinetmaker in Los Angeles and then drove it back to New York City, where its stunning green paint ensures it's the centre of attention. A vintage 1960s Italian chandelier lights up the scene.

DESIGN, Robert and Cortney Novogratz, The Novogratz, thenovogratz.com.

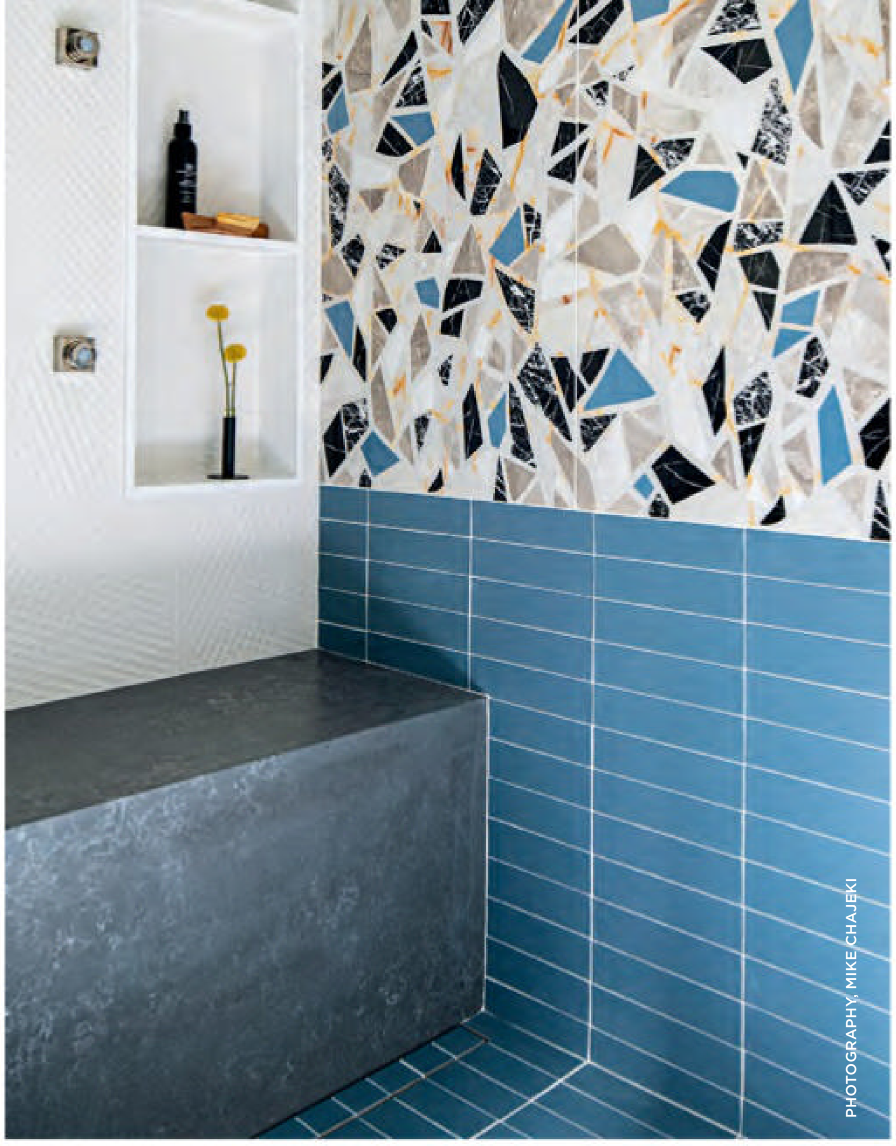


Coquina

SW 9158, Sherwin-Williams, sherwin-williams.com

Designer Michelle Berwick and her team had fun designing this child's bedroom. Upbeat colours create a happy and positive mood, and the design brings pattern to the forefront, almost like an abstract artwork. The dusky purple is paired with Granite Peak SW 6250, Leisure Blue SW 6515 and Mellow Coral SW 6324, all from Sherwin-Williams.

DESIGN, Michelle Berwick, Michelle Berwick Design, michelleberwickdesign.com.



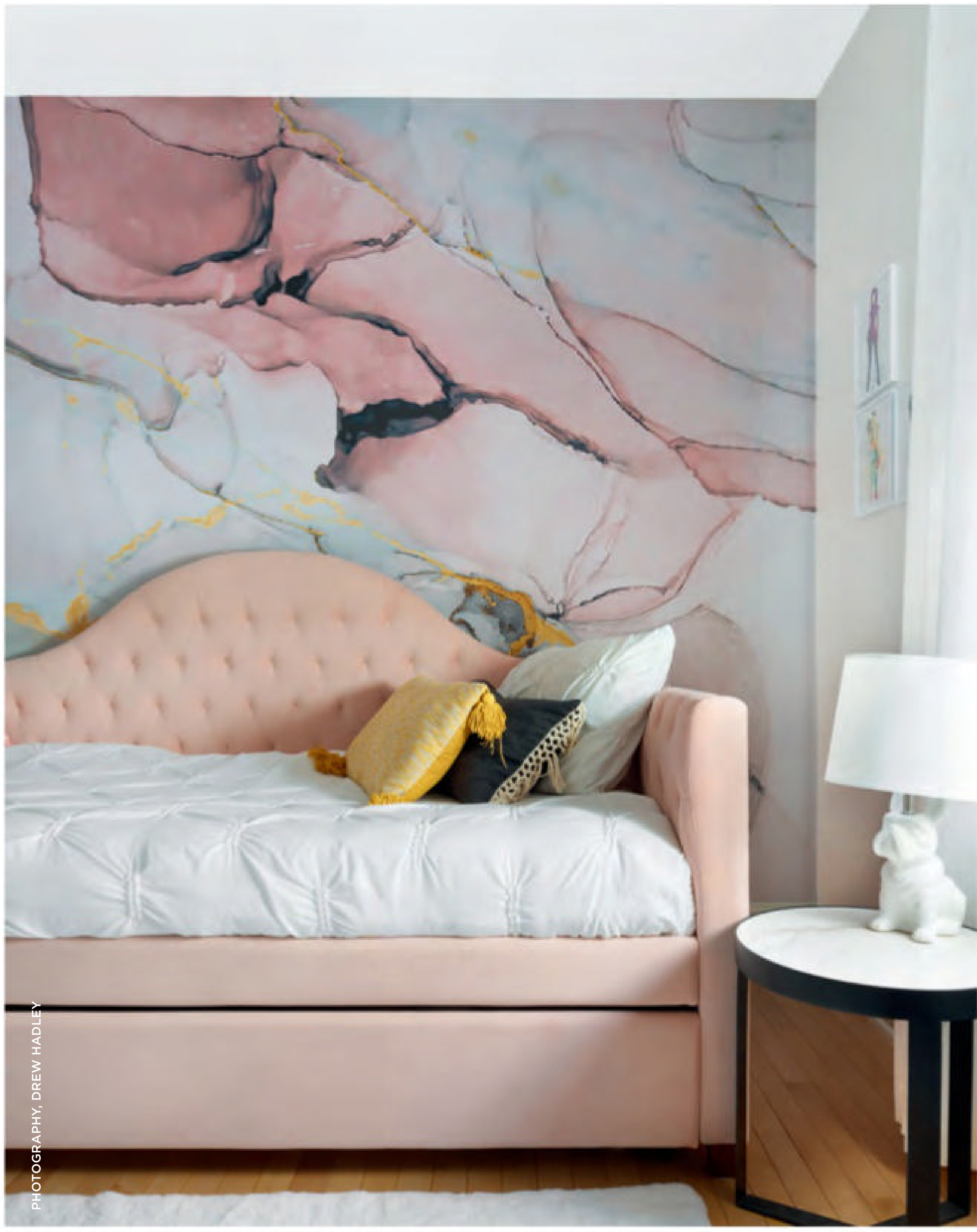
PHOTOGRAPHY, MIKE CHAJEKI

TotalBrick Tile in Blue Avio

Blu Avio Matte, Stone Tile, stone-tile.com

Paint isn't the only way to bring colour to the wall! These shower tiles were the jumping-off point for the palette in this colourful bathroom. What a splash!

DESIGN, Michelle Berwick, Michelle Berwick Design, michelleberwickdesign.com. Stucco Blanco Axiom **TILE;** Valentino Marble Majestic Mix Art **TILE;** Cercantile, cercantile.com.



PHOTOGRAPHY, DREW HADLEY

PHOTOGRAPHY, MIKE CHAJEKI

Romance

SW 6323, Sherwin-Williams, sherwin-williams.com

The lucky little girl whose bedroom this is fell for this stunning wallpaper, with its pink marbling effect. The colours are vibrant, but beside the soft blush of the upholstered bed and the white furnishings, its pattern doesn't overwhelm.

Nuance **WALLPAPER,** Emilie Cerretti, emiliecerretti.com. Rowan Valley Arden **DAYBED,** Little Seeds. **SIDE TABLE, LAMP,** HomeSense.

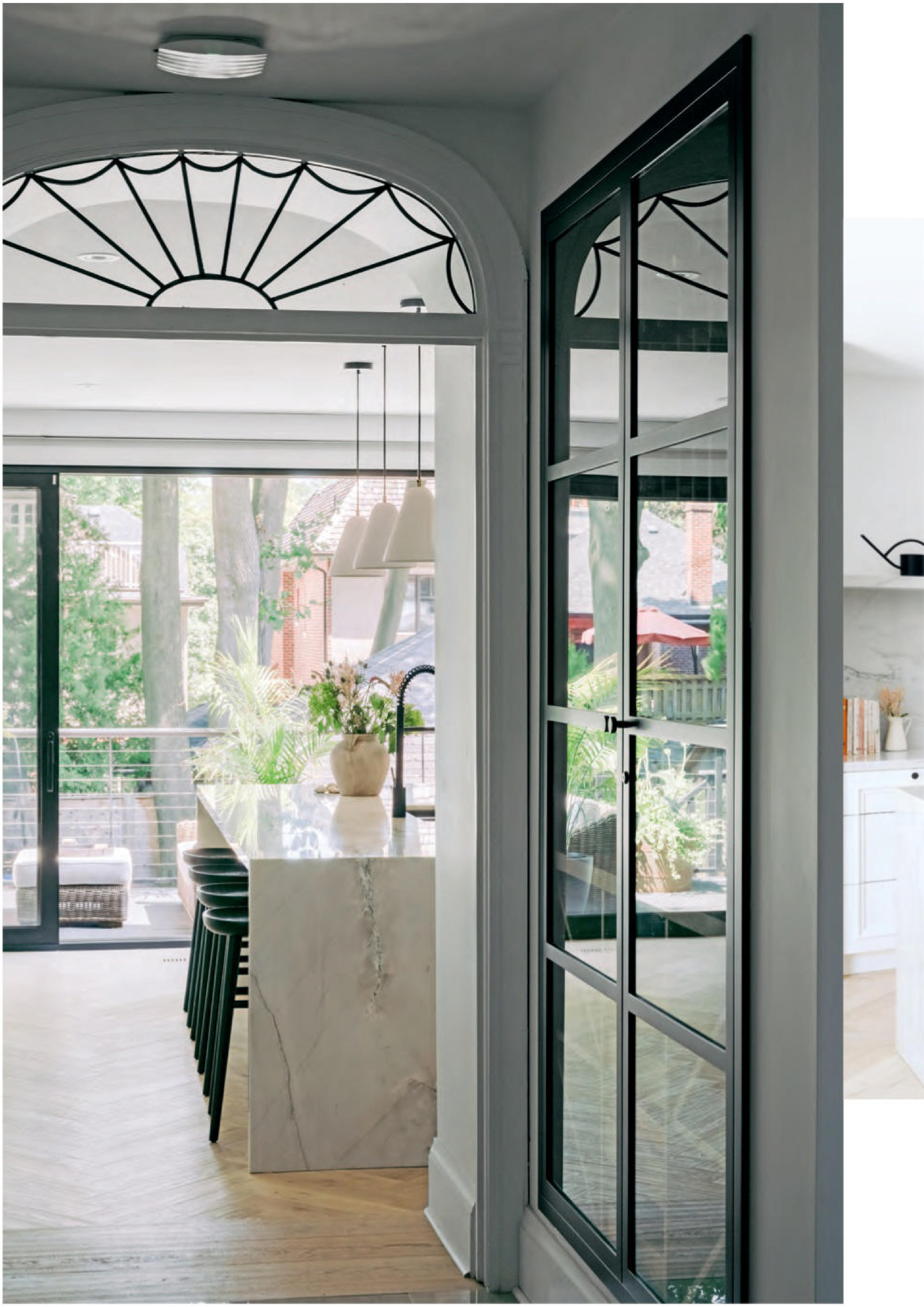
Old & New

A new, custom-made glass-fronted wine cupboard is a contemporary complement to the home's original circa 1920 archway and transom window. "We wanted to display Melissa and Matt's wine collection and this built-in feels like a piece of art as you enter the kitchen," says designer Kerry Dalton. The island's waterfall treatment furthers the visual appeal, and a 16-foot-long sliding glass door lets in lots of natural light.

Island Dreams

The expansive new kitchen fulfills Melissa's desire for an island and an open-concept design (the old kitchen was tucked behind the smaller archway and is now a butler's pantry). The 10-foot-long island has integrated storage on both sides and, like the counters and backsplash, is clad with veined quartzite, a stain- and heat-resistant material that's easy to clean. Black stools and hardware have an energetic vibrance in the spacious bright room, and new herringbone floors lend a bit of European elegance.

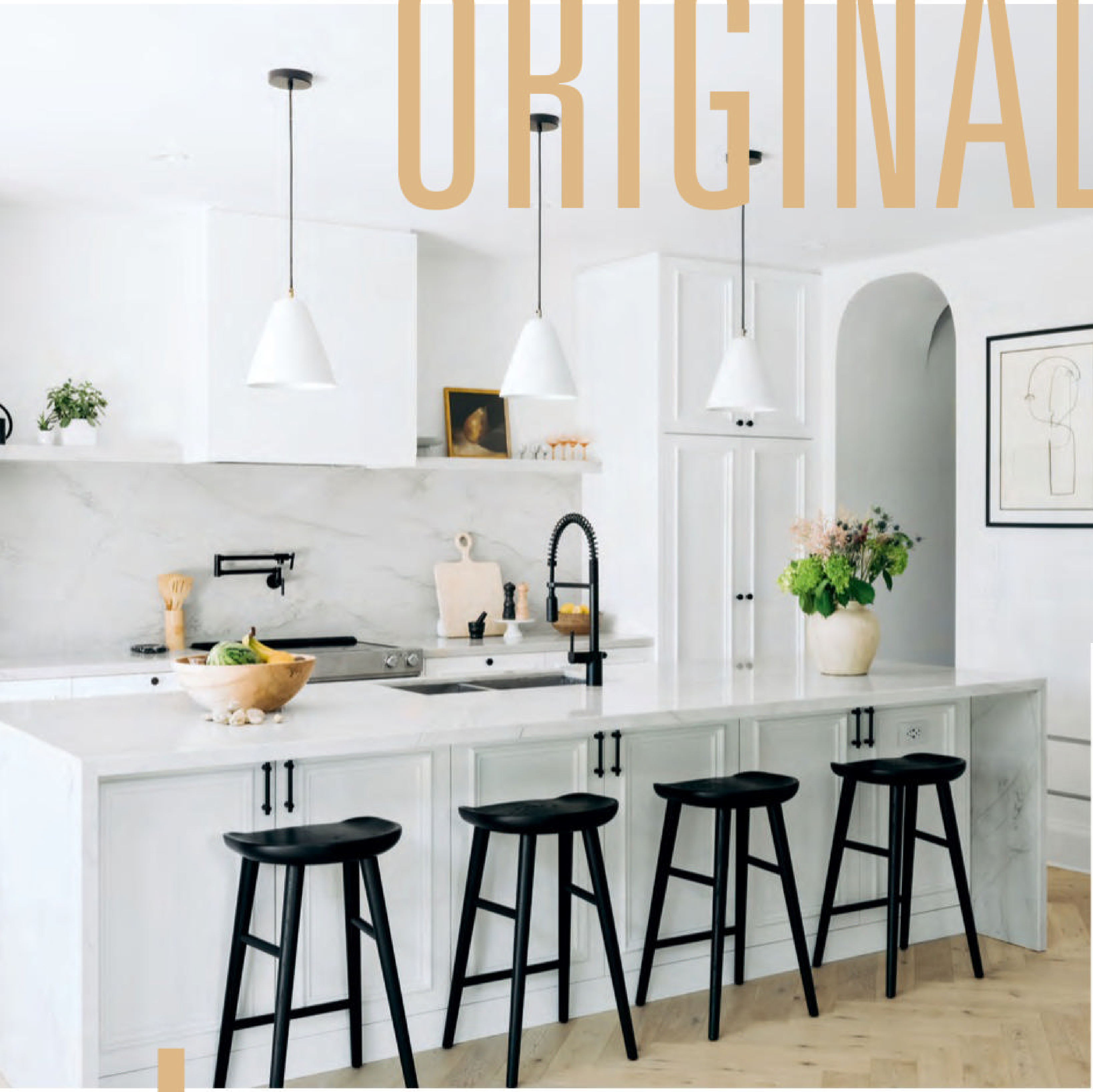
DESIGN, Kerry Dalton, Kerry Dalton Interior Design; Melissa Picken, Myla Moon. **ARCHITECT,** Nina Fant. **CONTRACTOR,** Natalie Myers, Pink Construction Management. **SLIDING DOOR,** Lepage. Mont Blanc quartzite **COUNTERTOPS,** Cava Surfaces. European white oak herringbone **FLOOR,** PurParket. **STOOLS,** Rejuvenation. **PENDANTS,** LD Shoppe. **ART,** The Poster Club.



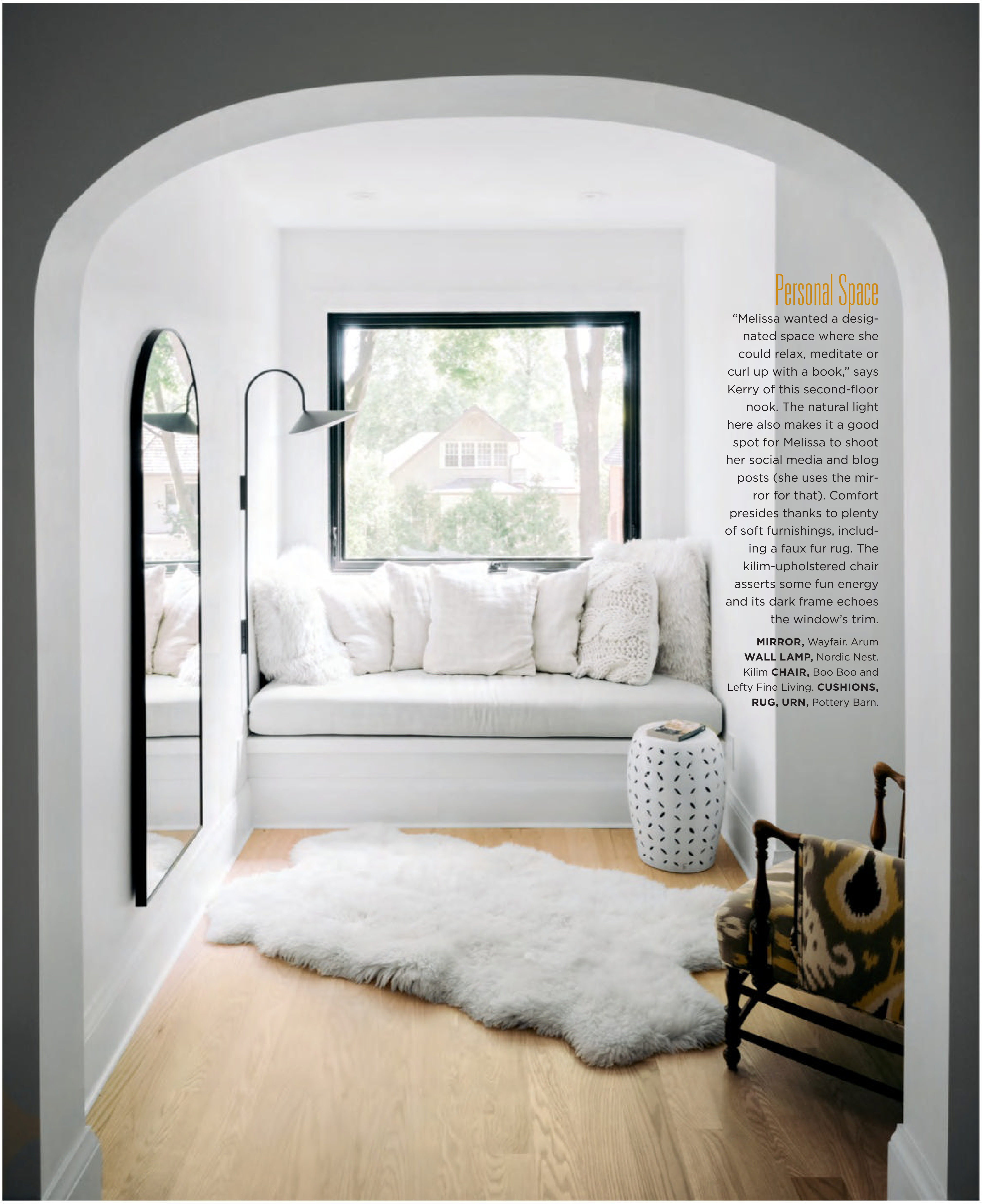
WHAT AN ORIGINAL!

Classic and contemporary come together in a century-old home renovated for modern family life.

TEXT CHRISTY WRIGHT
PHOTOGRAPHY JEREMIE DUPONT



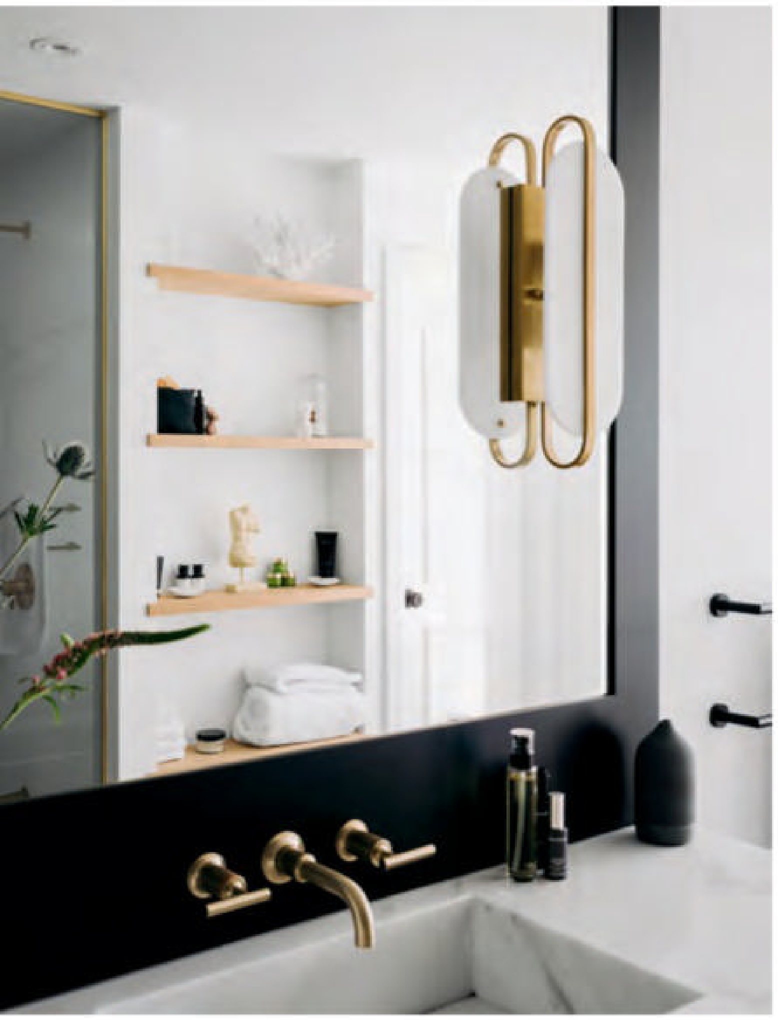
“Inviting and welcoming – there really isn’t a spot that’s off-limits,” says designer Kerry Dalton of this striking Toronto abode. It’s home to Melissa Picken (shown above), founder of Myla Moon (a boutique social media agency), her husband, Matt, their children, Max, 12, and Myla, 14, and labradoodle Murphy. The designer worked with Melissa, architect Nina Fant and contractor Natalie Myers (an all-female team), expanding the beautiful old home’s square footage, while preserving character elements like arches and leaded transoms. “Melissa is totally laid-back and loves flinging open all the doors and windows,” says Kerry. “I wanted to capture that spirit in the decor.” Natural materials and colours, pops of black and plenty of Melissa’s Pinterest picks informed the designer’s choices. Says Kerry, “This is now a light, bright family home that sparks warmth and joy.”



Personal Space

"Melissa wanted a designated space where she could relax, meditate or curl up with a book," says Kerry of this second-floor nook. The natural light here also makes it a good spot for Melissa to shoot her social media and blog posts (she uses the mirror for that). Comfort presides thanks to plenty of soft furnishings, including a faux fur rug. The kilim-upholstered chair asserts some fun energy and its dark frame echoes the window's trim.

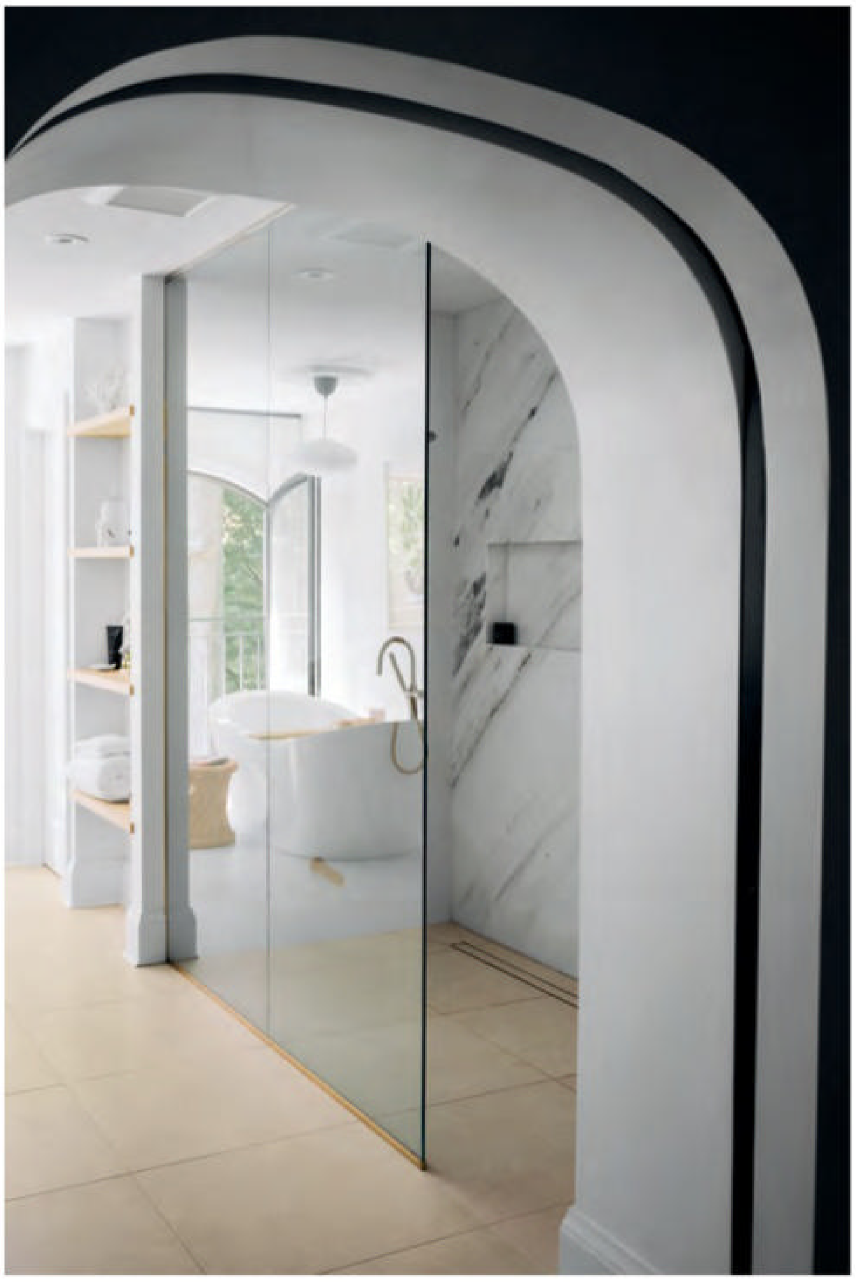
MIRROR, Wayfair. Arum **WALL LAMP,** Nordic Nest. Kilim **CHAIR,** Boo Boo and Lefty Fine Living. **CUSHIONS, RUG, URN,** Pottery Barn.



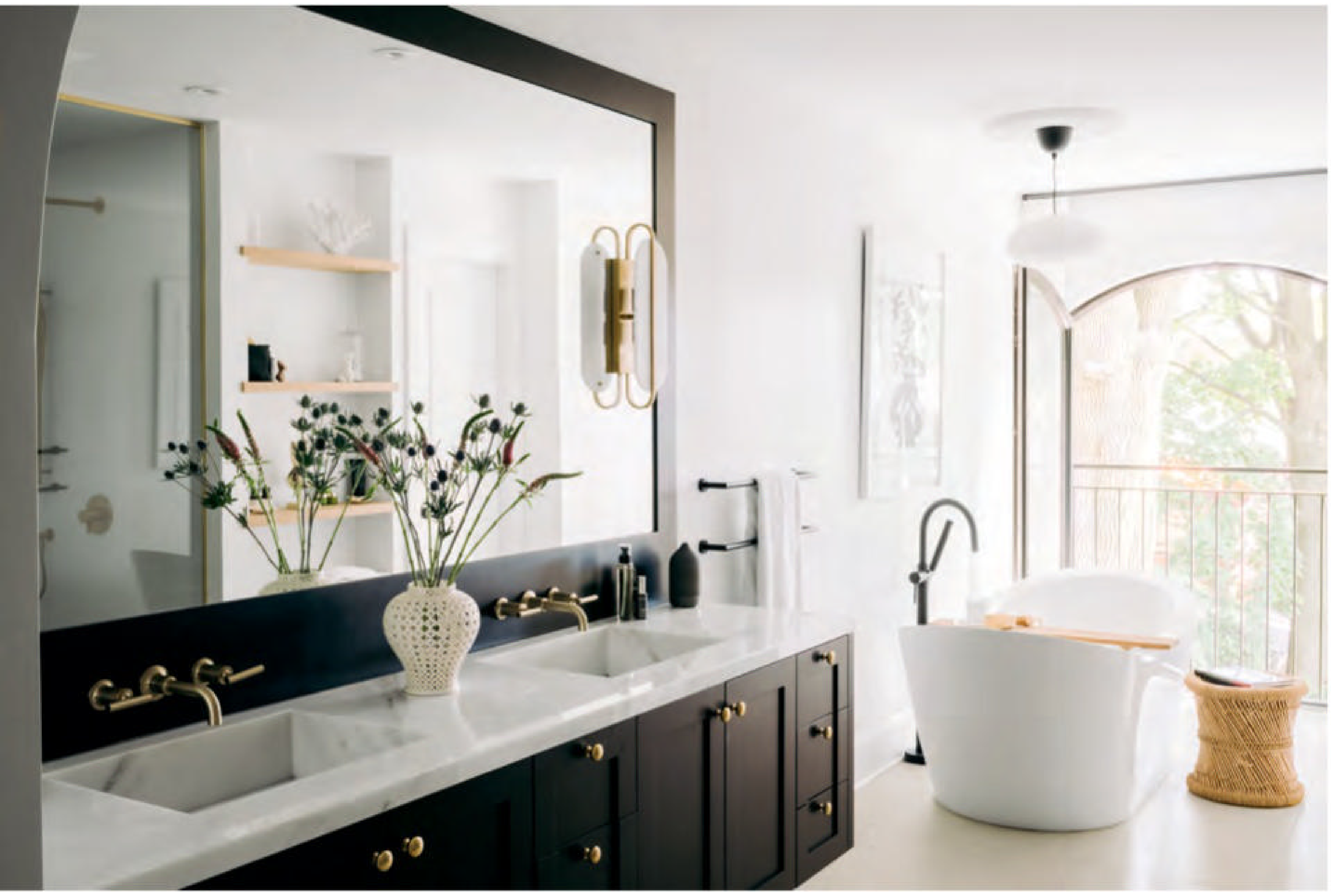
Seamless Style

Integrated stone sinks top the custom vanity. "I chose antique brass pulls to layer in some warmth to the black," says Kerry. The sconces follow suit and are mounted directly on the mirror, which is framed in the same material as the vanity. The extra-long shower has no curb and features bookmarked marble slabs. Floating wood shelves deliver more warmth and places to display pretty items.

SCONCE, LD Shoppe. Calacatta Antico **COUNTERTOP, SINKS,** Cava Surfaces.



> "I can relax in the tub with the French windows open and feel like I'm in a tree house." – Melissa Picken



All Natural

"I wanted our primary bathroom to make us feel like we were at a spa or away on vacation," says homeowner Melissa Picken. The elliptical tub has a curvy sculptural presence, while accessories such as framed artwork, a stylish pendant light and a woven stool create a calming, finished look that contributes to the getaway sensation.

PENDANT, IKEA. **ARTWORK,** Absolutely Inc. **STOOL,** Advice from a Caterpillar.

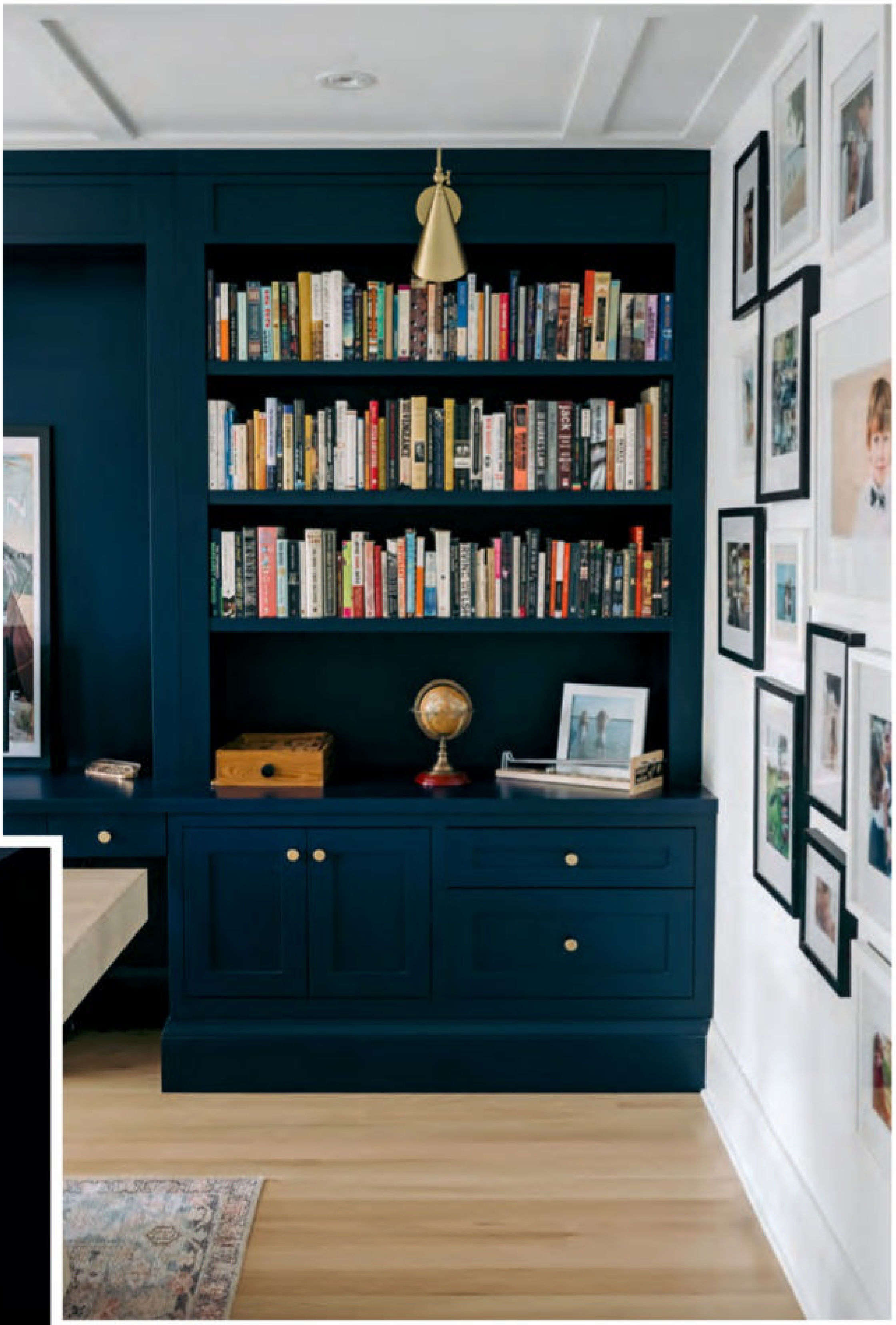
Desk Job

"Melissa wanted to bring in some warmth to the home office with this sculptural wooden desk," says Kerry. "We designed the millwork with drawers so that it neatly stores everything the desk can't." Other design choices, such as the panelled ceiling, deep blue paint and patterned rug, kick the warmth up another degree or two. A swaggering pendant light makes a confident contribution and loosens up the room's straight lines.

Shelf Life

"We love books!" says Melissa. "I love collecting them, so we needed lots of shelves here." Brass accents, including sleek sconces, echo those found throughout the home for subtle design continuity. Kerry says: "Even though this is an office, it isn't remotely stuffy. It has this almost bohemian feel that's in keeping with Melissa's breezy style."

Petite Friture's Vertigo **PENDANT LIGHT,** GR Shop by Gabriel Ross. **SCONCES,** Home Depot. **DESK,** CB2. **DESK CHAIR,** Wayfair. Brass **HARDWARE,** Rejuvenation. **CABINETRY PAINT,** Deep Royal 2061-10, Benjamin Moore. **UPHOLSTERED CHAIR,** Elte.



"This is an office that keeps me inspired while I work. The French doors and the gallery wall that displays family photos and the kids' artwork give the room a nice, relaxing vibe." – Melissa Picken

BEFORE & AFTER

Ready for a reno? Designer tips for getting it right and nine totally transformed rooms will get you started.

TEXT KATHLEEN DORE

PHOTOGRAPHY, VALERIE WILCOX

VIBRANT VIBE

THE DESIGNERS

Tamara Robbins Griffith and Jessica Dybenko, Kerr & Field Interiors.

THE BRIEF

This family bathroom needed updating and more storage. The owners weren't sure whether to go for a neutral scheme for resale value or something more unique. In the end, something personal, and beautiful, won out!

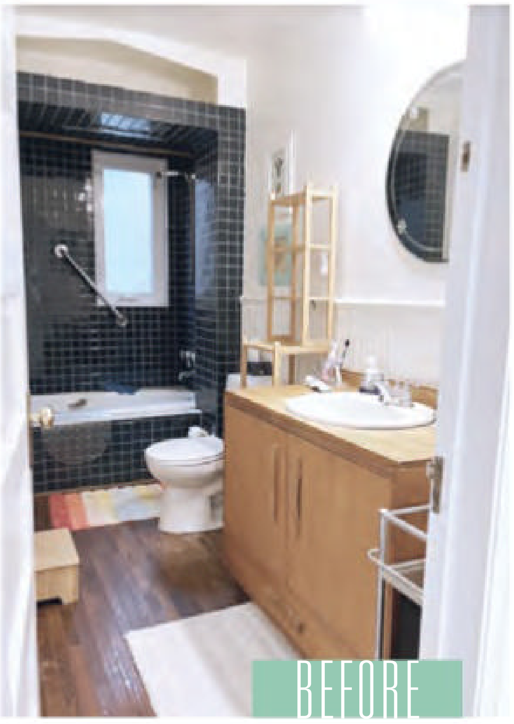
FAVOURITE FEATURES

A new 60-inch vanity offers tons of storage and cleans up the previous visual and actual clutter created by many small storage pieces. The tub (a must-have for this family) is a new focal point, with its archway that nods to the past and also marks the transition between gorgeous green and calming white tile.

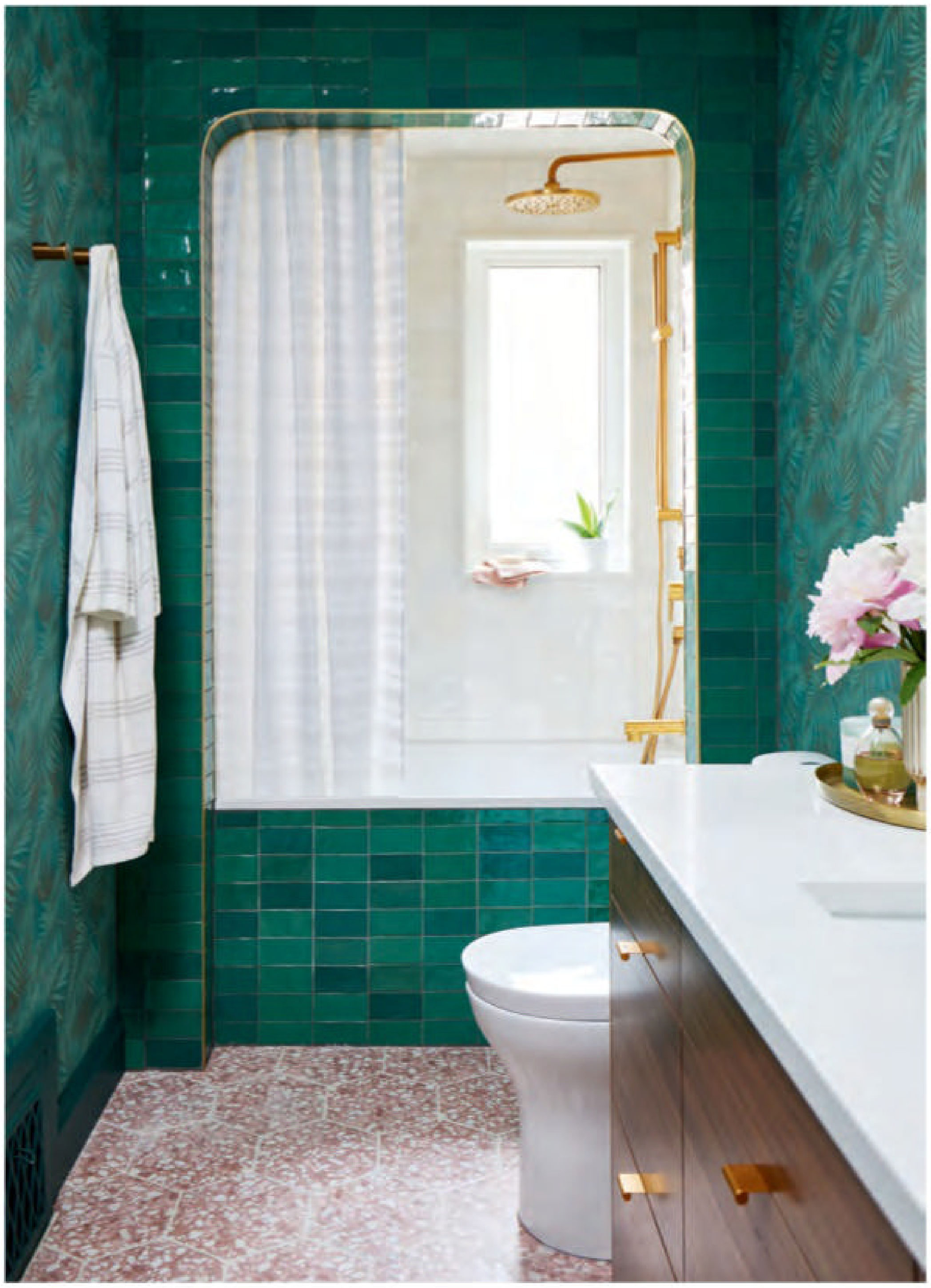
TOP TIP

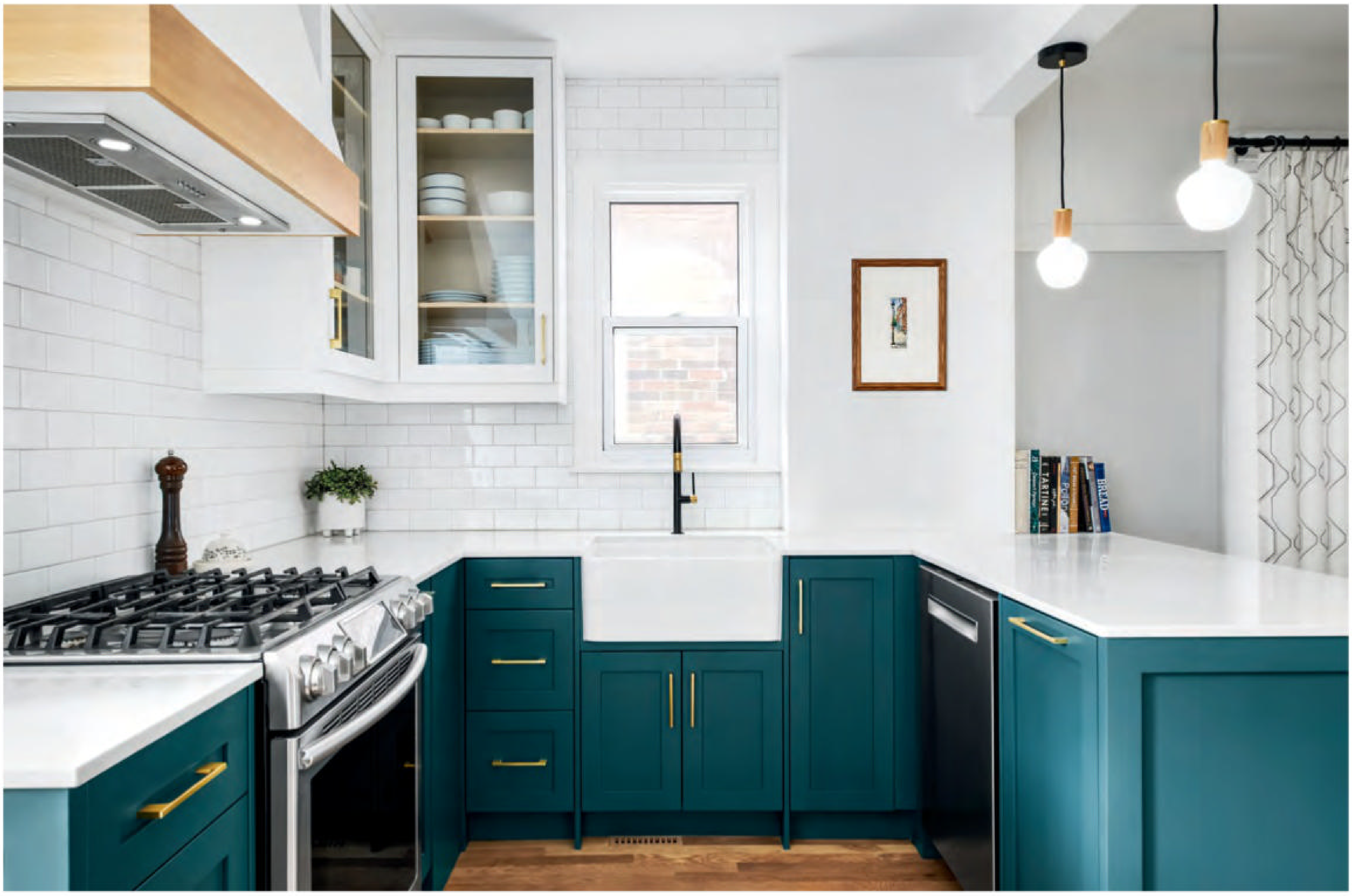
This bathroom looks dramatically different than before, even though the functional layout didn't change, illustrating the impact of colour in a redesign.

The magic of before and after shots is the night and day transformation they portray. The lure is that they make renos look instantaneous. They aren't! And when the dust settles, the results better be worth the work. We asked the designers of these nine amazing renos for their best tips and favourite features. Get ready to be inspired!



DESIGN, Tamara Robbins Griffith, Jessica Dybenko, Kerr + Field Interiors. Asher Teodor Modern American black walnut **VANITY,** The Vanity Store. Tres Tintas's Sinusoide vinyl **WALLPAPER,** NewWall. Six **FLOOR TILE;** Fez **WALL TILE;** Pottery **NICHE TILE;** Mettro Source. **HANDHELD SHOWER; RAIN SHOWER;** Align **TUB FILLER, ROBE HOOKS, TOWEL BAR;** Moen. Vega bath **LIGHT FIXTURE,** CB2. Streamline Wide Arch **MIRROR,** West Elm.





THE DESIGNER
Rotem Lamsee, Ace of Space Interiors.

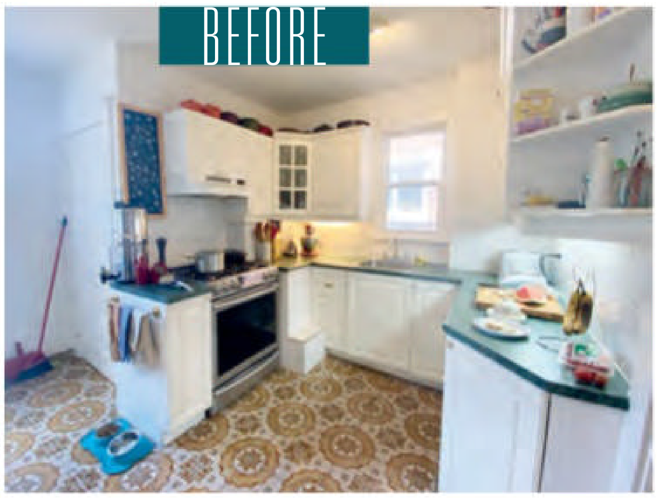
THE BRIEF
The kitchen in this century-old home was small and dark. The owners wanted a functional space that felt more open, where they could celebrate their love of cooking and entertaining.

FAVOURITE FEATURES
The new open-concept space is a highlight of the main floor, with its fresh, welcoming palette. Structural changes allowed for more counter and storage space.

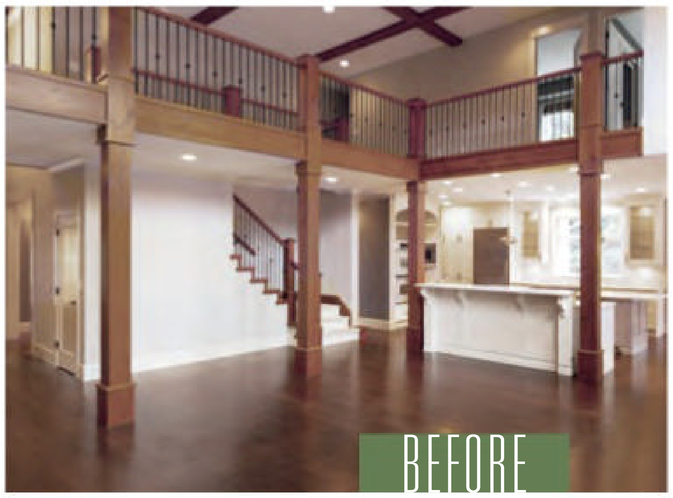
TOP TIP
When redesigning a small kitchen, allocate logical space for all everyday items. Keep them within reach, but tucked away to reduce clutter. The goal is to combine ergonomics with an aesthetically pleasing space.

OPEN KITCHEN

DESIGN, Rotem Lamsee, Ace of Space Interiors. **TILE,** Olympia Tile. Shaker-style maple **MILLWORK,** One Plus Kitchens. Fireclay Farmhouse **SINK,** Frazer Armed **SCONCES,** Wayfair. Tala Walnut **PENDANT,** Style Garage. Vogt's Dornbirn **FAUCET,** Dupont Plumbing.



PHOTOGRAPHY, NICOLE AUBREY PHOTOGRAPHY



THE DESIGNER

Madeleine Sloback, Madeleine Design Group.

THE BRIEF

Dramatically revamp a traditional kitchen into a modern "magazine-worthy" space. The owners, who love to host guests, wanted the kitchen to have wow factor, in terms of both form and function.

FAVOURITE FEATURES

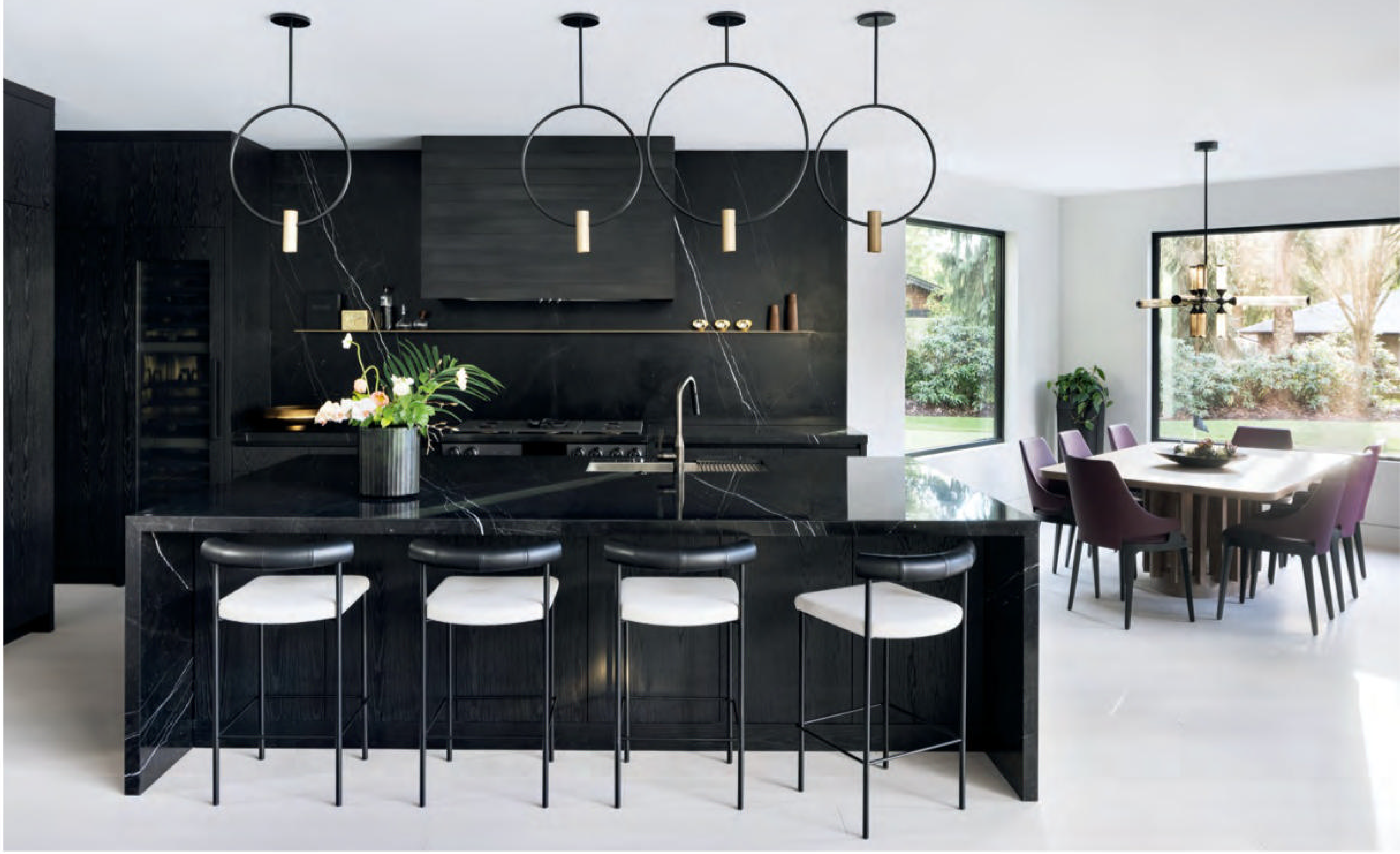
The unique black-on-black motif; creative storage solutions to accommodate a request for no upper cabinets on one wall.

TOP TIP

Collaborate early on with the contractor and structural engineer to avoid planning features that aren't possible to build in that particular space.

DESIGN, custom blackened-steel **RANGE HOOD,** Madeleine Sloback, Madeleine Design Group. Black-stained white oak **CABINETRY,** Nickels Cabinets. Honed Nero Marquina marble **COUNTERTOPS** and **BACKSPLASH,** Bordignon Stone. Custom **PENDANTS,** Madeleine Design Group (design); Karice Lighting (fabrication). **APPLIANCES,** Dacor. Range hood **FAN,** Fulgar. **SINK,** The Galley.

NOUVELLE CUISINE



PHOTOGRAPHY, WHEN THEY FIND US

AWASH IN COLOUR

THE DESIGNER

Vanessa Francis, Vanessa Francis Design.

THE BRIEF

A functional but pretty space to do laundry.

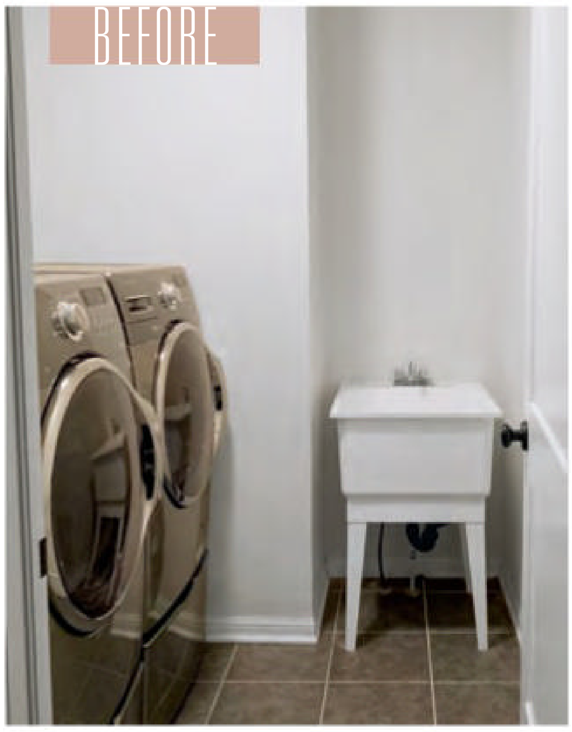
FAVOURITE FEATURES

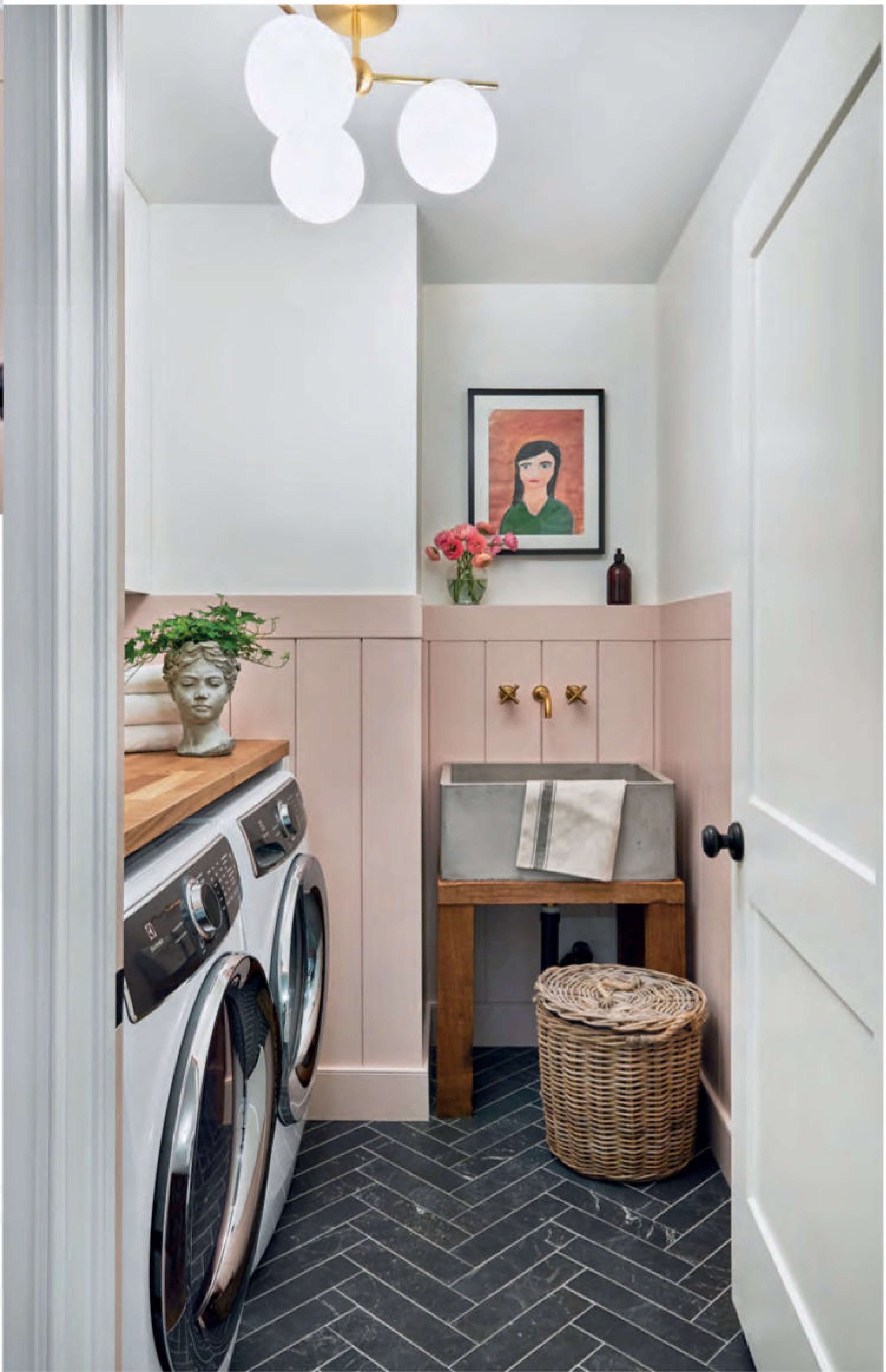
The lightweight concrete sink on a reclaimed wood base adds a vintage element and tons of character. The vertical pink-painted shiplap and black herringbone tile bring pattern and visual interest.

TOP TIP

Think about form and function. Do you need storage, a surface to fold laundry on, a place to wash the dog?

DESIGN, Vanessa Francis, Vanessa Francis Design. **SINK,** Native Trails. **FAUCET,** Kohler. **SHIPLAP, TRIM,** Metrie. Electrolux **APPLIANCES,** Goemans. **COUNTERTOP,** IKEA.





PHOTOGRAPHY, STEPHANI BUCHMAN

A ROOM THAT WORKS

THE DESIGNER

Vanessa Francis, Vanessa Francis Design.

THE BRIEF

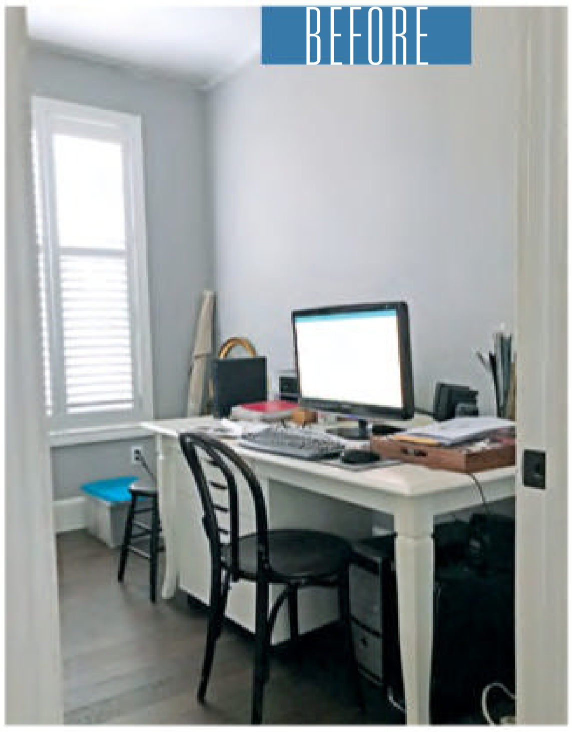
The designer's own home office needed to be a dedicated space for working, where files, samples and product info could be neatly stored and within reach.

FAVOURITE FEATURE

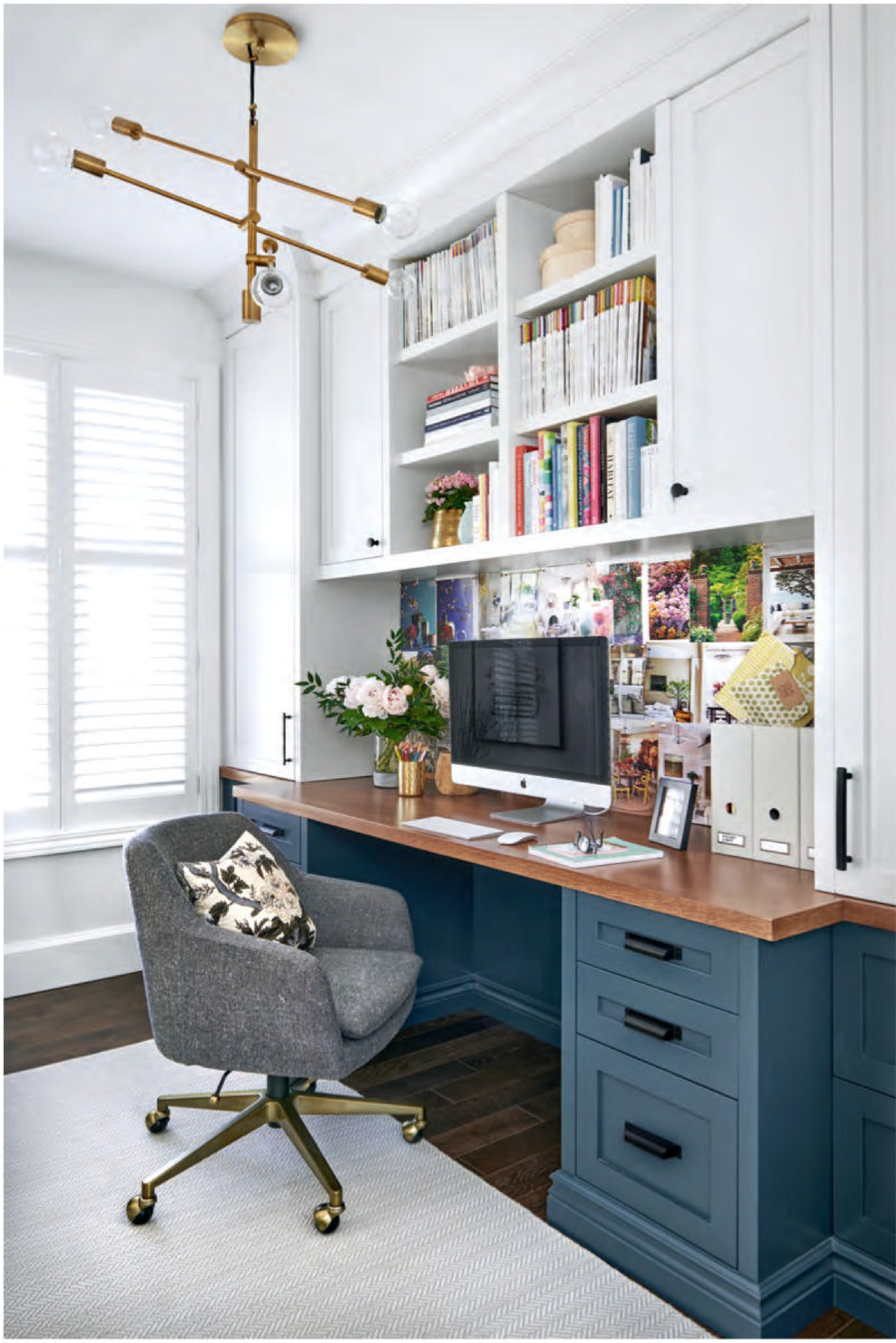
The built-in cabinetry was a splurge but worth the investment in a room where storage is at a premium.

TOP TIP

When designing a home office, consider how you work, what you need to store, and what you need to be able to access easily.

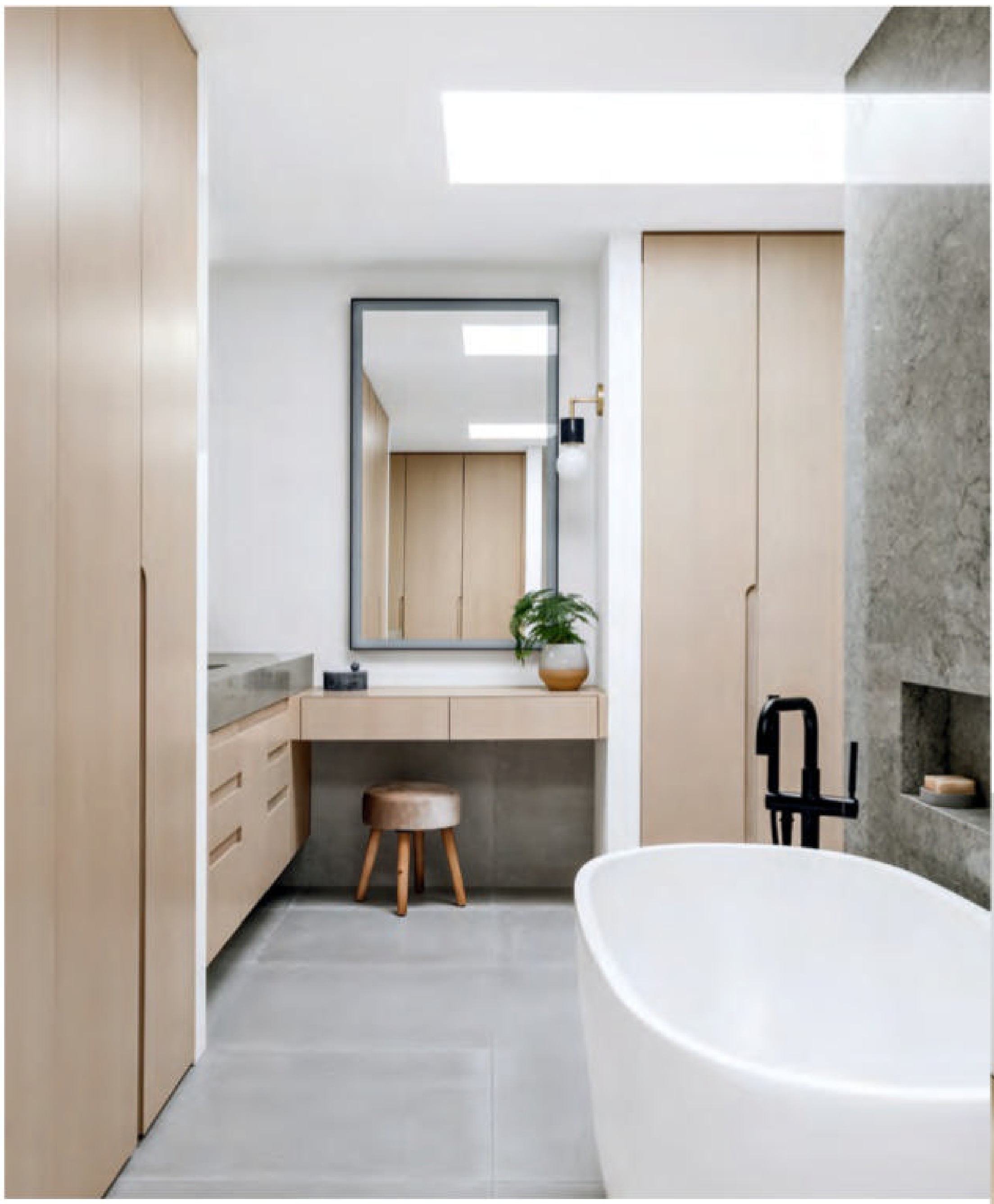


PHOTOGRAPHY, STEPHANI BUCHMAN



DESIGN, Vanessa Francis, Vanessa Francis Design. **CABINETRY,** Next Generation Woodwork. Milton **HARDWARE,** Top Knobs. **RUG,** Annie Selke. **PENDANT, DESK CHAIR,** West Elm.

SERENE & SPA-LIKE



THE DESIGNER

Elena Del Bucchia, EDB Design.

THE BRIEF

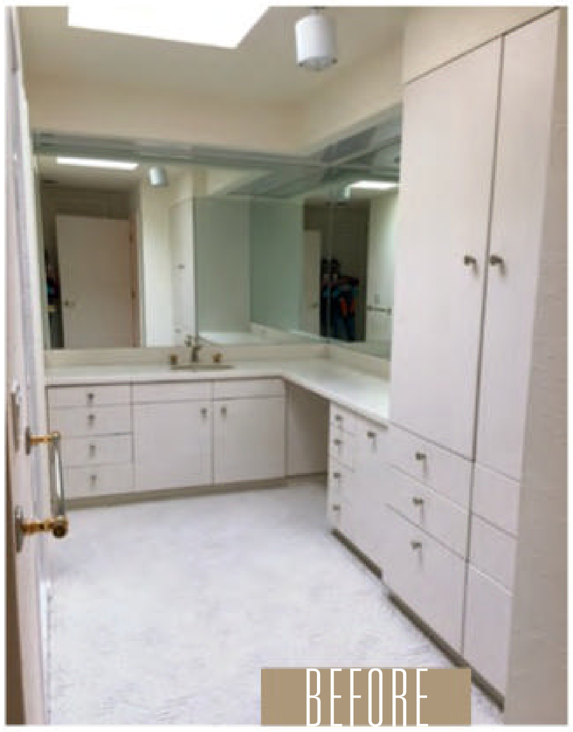
Design a modern (to suit the rest of the home), light-filled, spa-like primary ensuite that feels moody. It must be highly functional with plenty of storage, and transition seamlessly to the adjoining dressing room.

FAVOURITE FEATURES

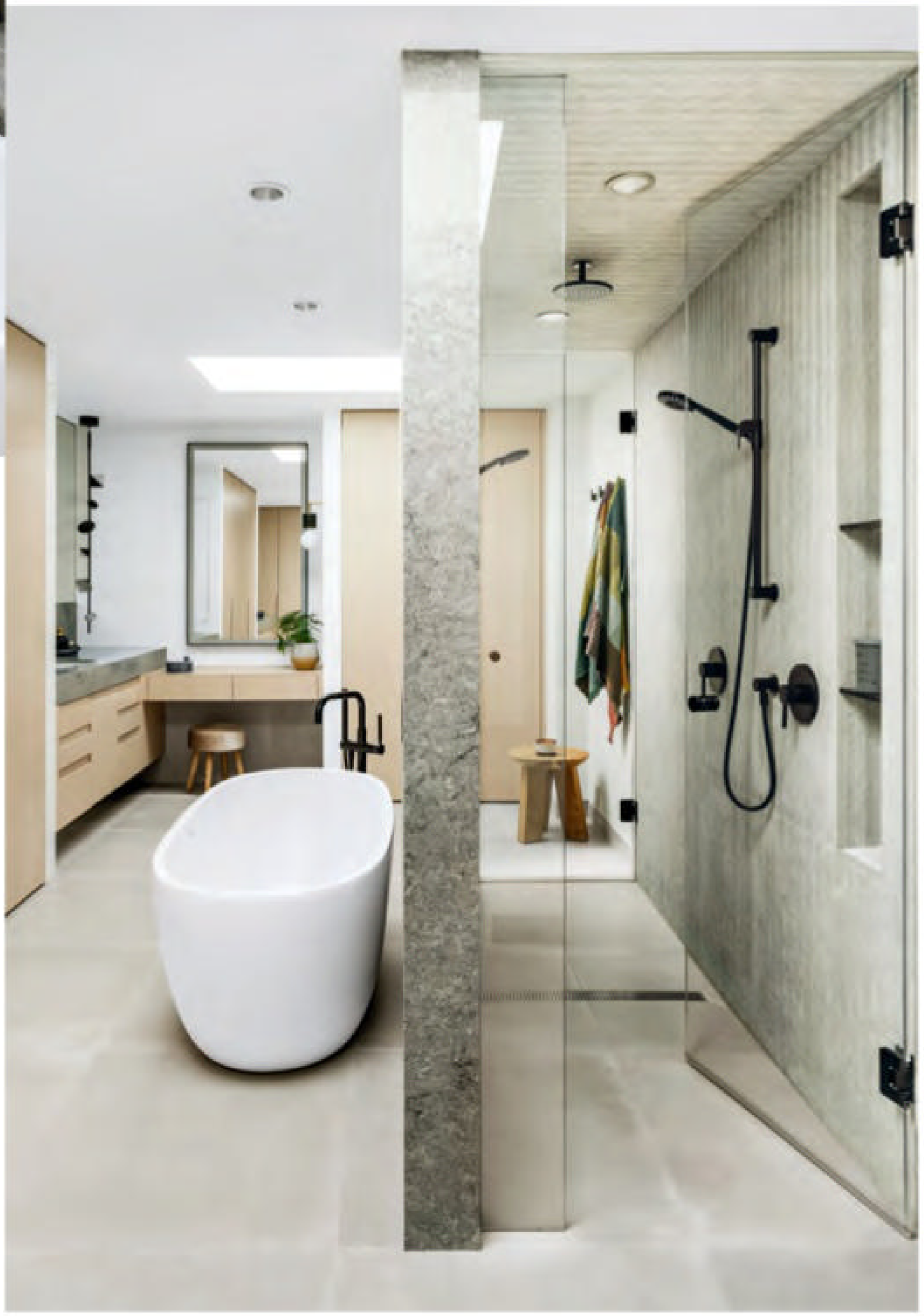
Maximized light with skylights and a layered lighting plan, including an LED mirror. Floor-to-ceiling millwork makes the room feel spacious and provides ample organized storage.

TOP TIP

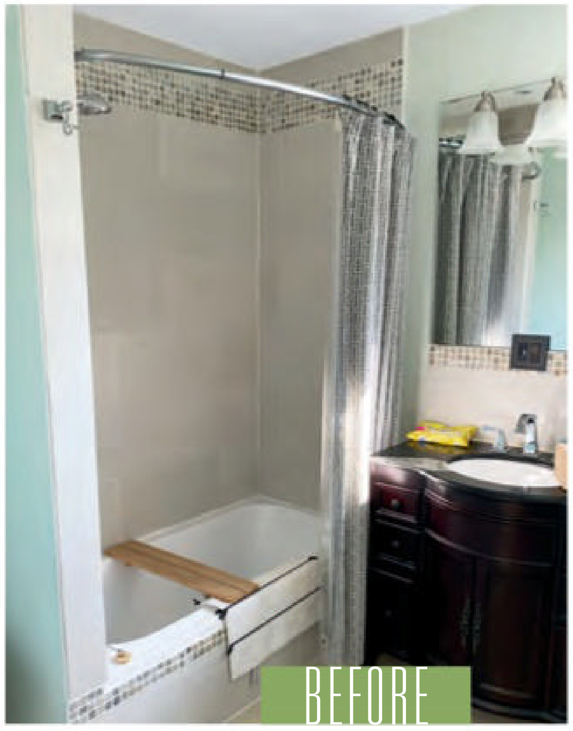
With renos, you are dealing with an existing structure that may present surprises and limitations. First, design a layout that maximizes your wish list and takes the room's mechanical and structural limitations into consideration; then hire a knowledgeable contractor.



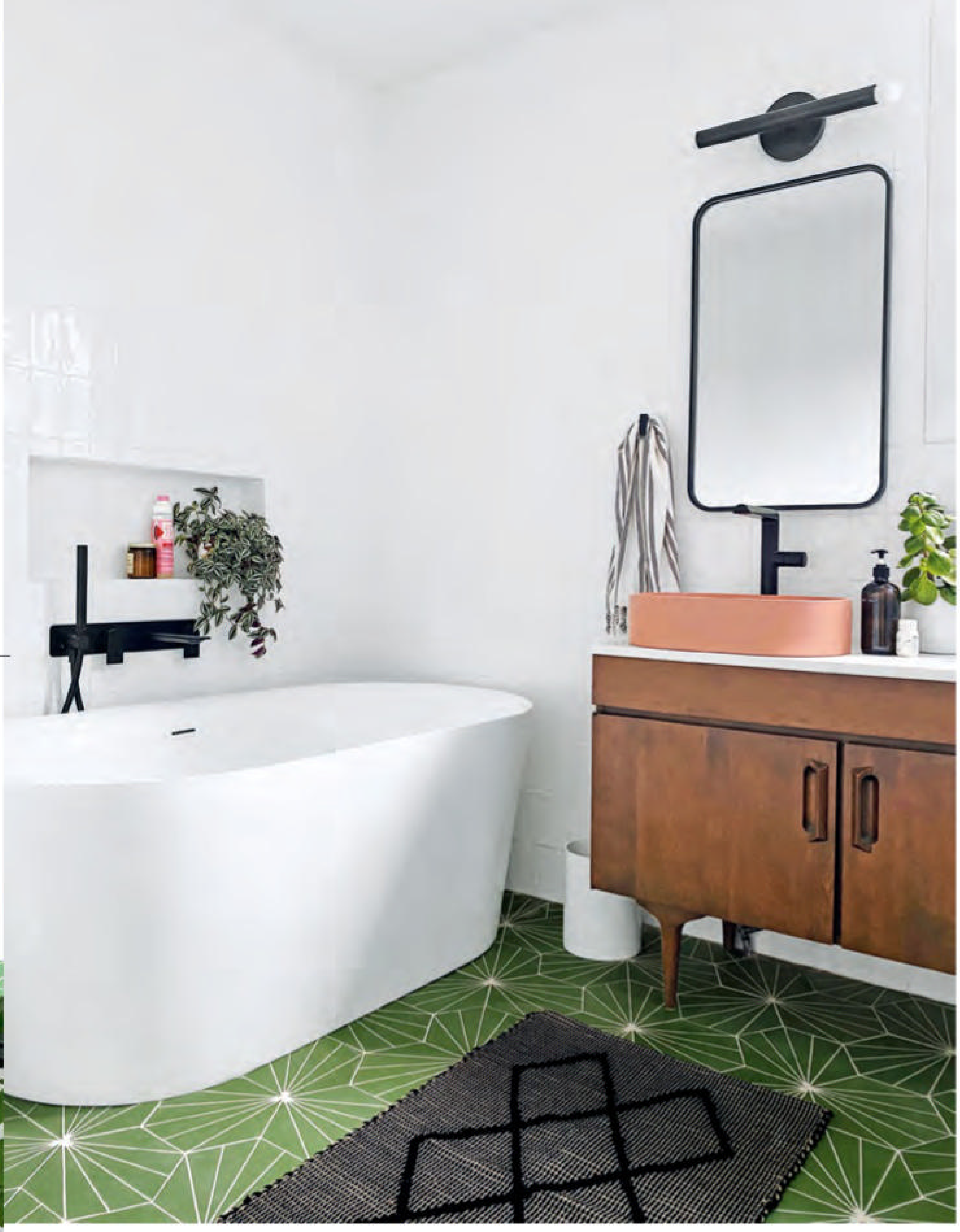
DESIGN, Elena Del Bucchia, EDB Design. White oak **MILLWORK,** Northmount Industries. Turbine Grey **COUNTERTOPS,** Pacific Stone. Gesso Natural White **FLOOR TILE,** Tierra Sol. Spiga Noir Topo **SHOWER WALL TILE,** Porcelanosa. **RAIN SHOWER,** Riobel. **MIRROR, PENDANT, SCONCES;** Kohler **SINK, BATHTUB;** Robinson Lighting & Bath. Cedar **STOOL,** Le Belle Arti.

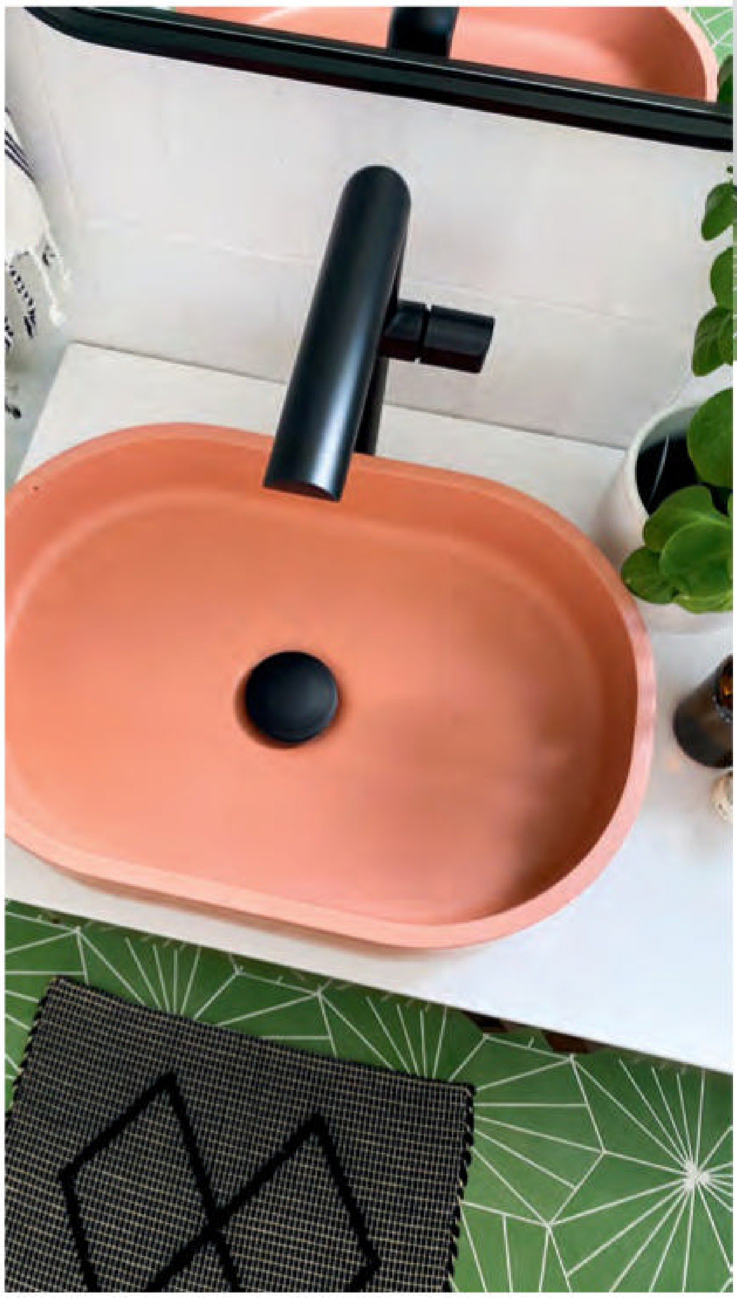


PHOTOGRAPHY, MICHELLE JOHNSON, MJAY PHOTOGRAPHY



DESIGN, Arren Williams. Encaustic **FLOOR TILE,** ceramic **WALL TILE,** Saltillo Imports. Riobel **FAUCET** and **SHOWER/TUB FILLER,** House of Rohl. **MIRROR,** Wayfair. **SCONCE,** West Elm. **SINK,** Mudd Concrete.





PHOTOGRAPHY, STACEY BRANDFORD

PATTERN PLAY

THE DESIGNER

Arren Williams.

THE BRIEF

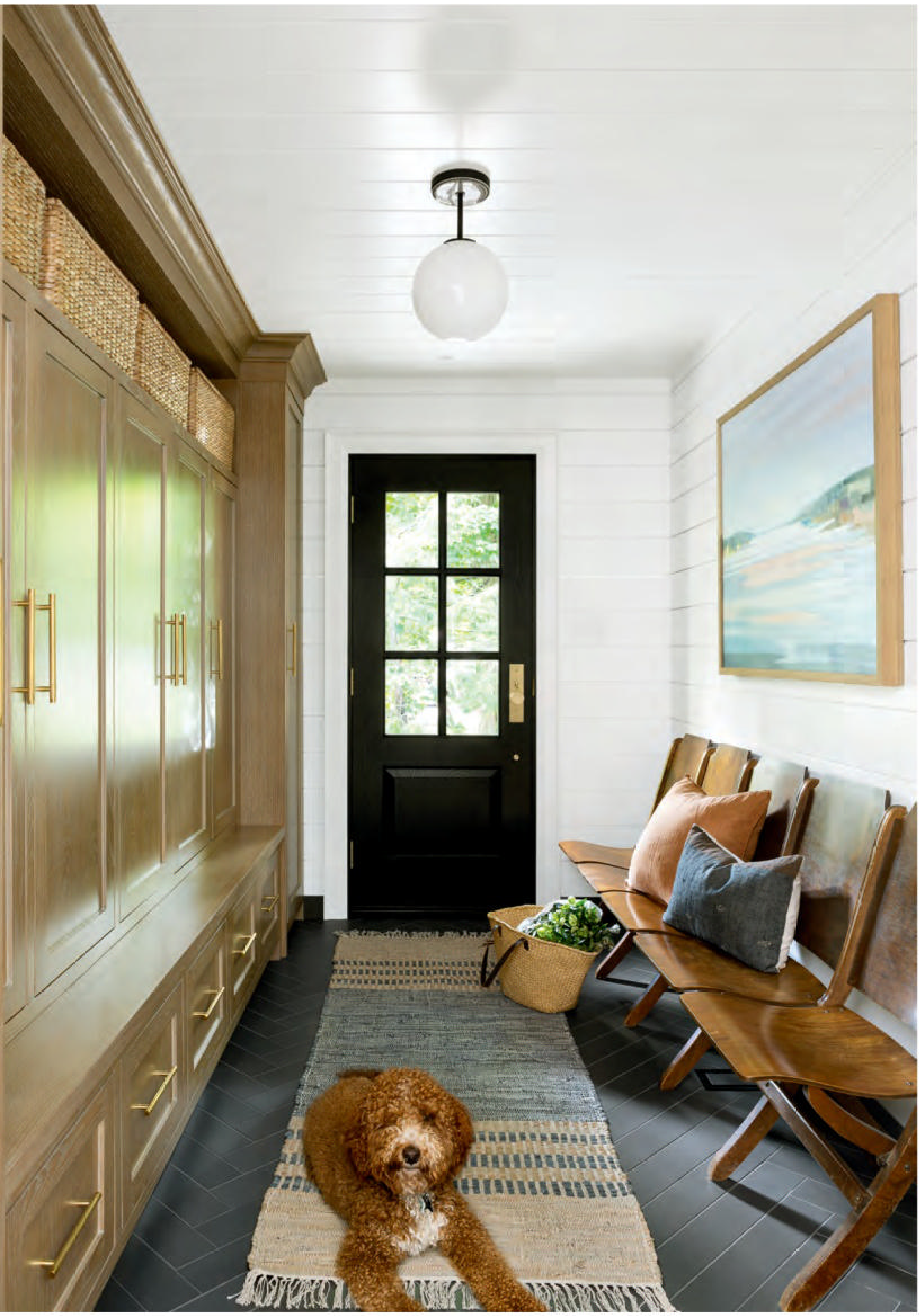
Create a guest bathroom that is bright, playful and eclectic but still feels modern. Must-haves: strong pattern and a hit of vintage.

FAVOURITE FEATURE

The vintage cabinetry that was converted to a vanity. It's easy to do, and the result is a piece that is completely unique.

TOP TIP

Encaustic floor tiles provide stand-out pattern but require care and attention over the long term. They are porous, so acidic, bleach-based and abrasive cleaners must be avoided; instead, use a product designed for natural stone. Annual sealing is required. Ensure you are willing to put in the work, or look for ceramic tiles in a similar design.



COME ON IN!

THE DESIGNER

Giovanna Grecco, Proggetti Inc.

THE BRIEF

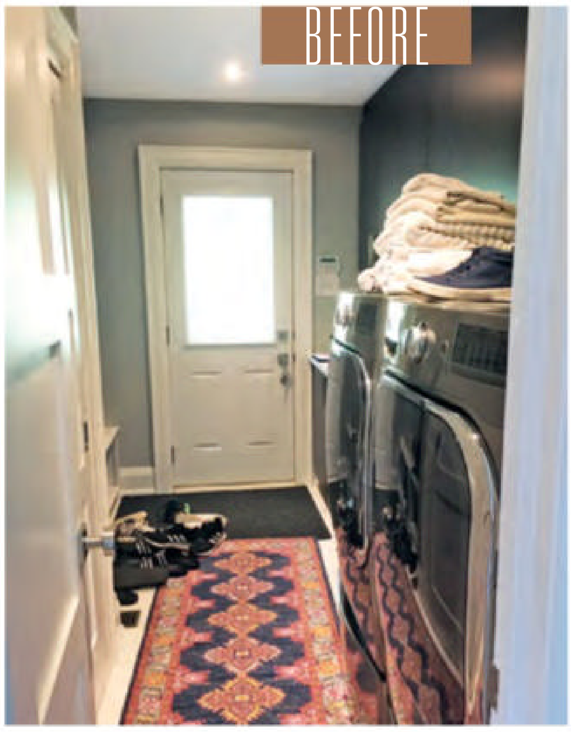
Relocate the laundry room to the basement and redesign the mudroom so that each family member has a dedicated closed cubby. Add storage for cleaning supplies and a place to sit for changing footwear. Give the newly functional space a modern farmhouse look.

FAVOURITE FEATURE

The custom millwork runs the length of the room, solving storage woes, providing a place for footwear, coats, and pantry and cleaning supplies.

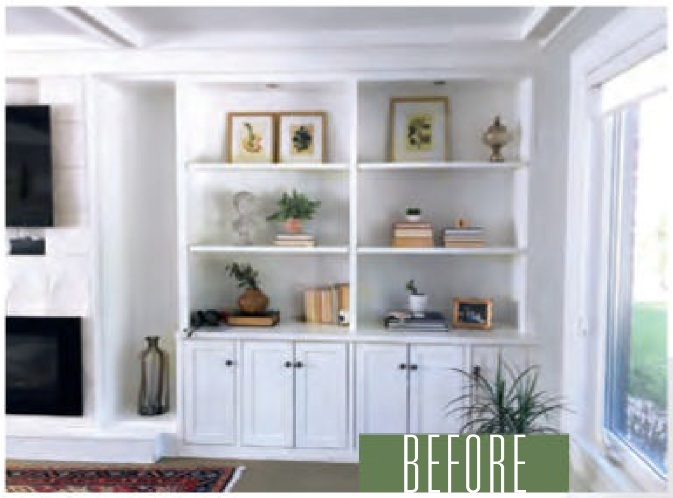
TOP TIP

Seating in a mudroom is practical for all ages, including those with mobility issues. The charming vintage bench marries functionality and good looks with its wood patina, which adds warmth, while contrasting the room's white walls.



DESIGN, Giovanna Grecco, Proggetti Inc. **CONSTRUCTION,** Tricore Design-Build. **FLOORING,** Stone Tile. **WALL PANELLING,** Babbingtons Mould & Trim. Vintage **BENCH,** Joliette. Decorative **LIGHTING,** Anthropologie. **ART PRINT,** Urban Barn. **BASKETS,** Pottery Barn. Custom **DOOR,** Traditional Door. Custom **MILLWORK,** New Generation Woodworking.

PHOTOGRAPHY, KIELY RAMOS PHOTOGRAPHY. STYLING, MARGOT AUSTIN



DESIGN, Giovanna Grecco, Proggetti Inc. **CONTRACTOR, CONSTRUCTION,** reclaimed wood-beam **MANTEL,** Tricore Design-Build. Custom **MILLWORK,** New Generation Woodworking. **FIREPLACE SURROUND TILE,** Mettro Source. **CHAIR,** Crate and Barrel. **SIDE TABLE,** CB2. White **AREA CARPET, DRAPERY,** Pottery Barn.

ON THE SHELF

THE DESIGNER

Giovanna Grecco, Proggetti Inc.

THE BRIEF

Redesign the fireplace surround and bring a warm, lived-in feel to the living room, working with the existing floors, lighting and Persian rug. Use custom built-ins to improve the proportions and add visual interest to a wide, shallow room.

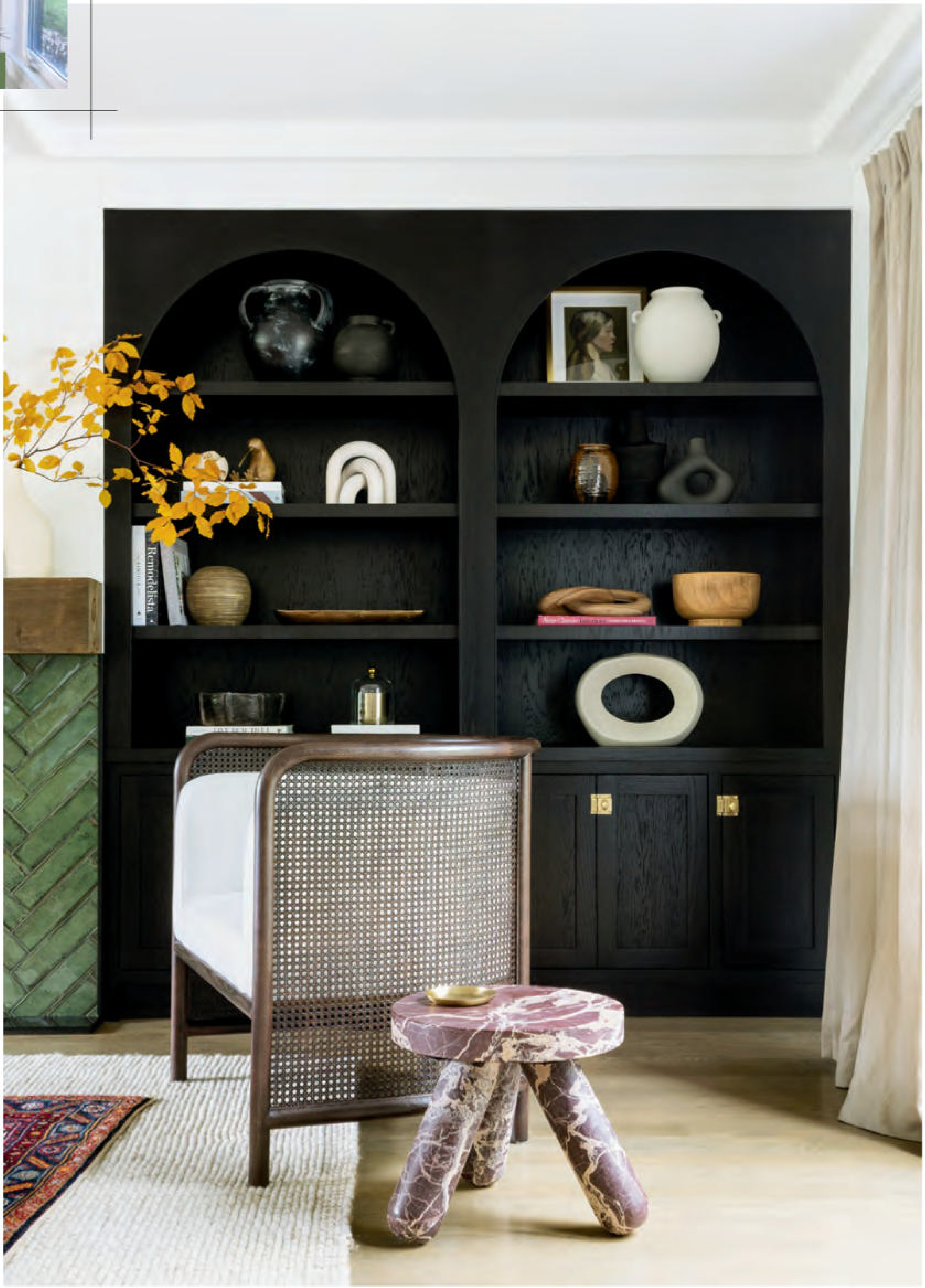
FAVOURITE FEATURES

Rich red tones (picked up from the rug) were used in the furniture and decor, and complement the new green subway tile on the fireplace surround. The matte-satin black bookshelves contrast but don't compete with the existing wood floor.

TOP TIP

Built-in cabinets are functional, space saving and impactful in bringing balance and interest to oddly proportioned spaces.

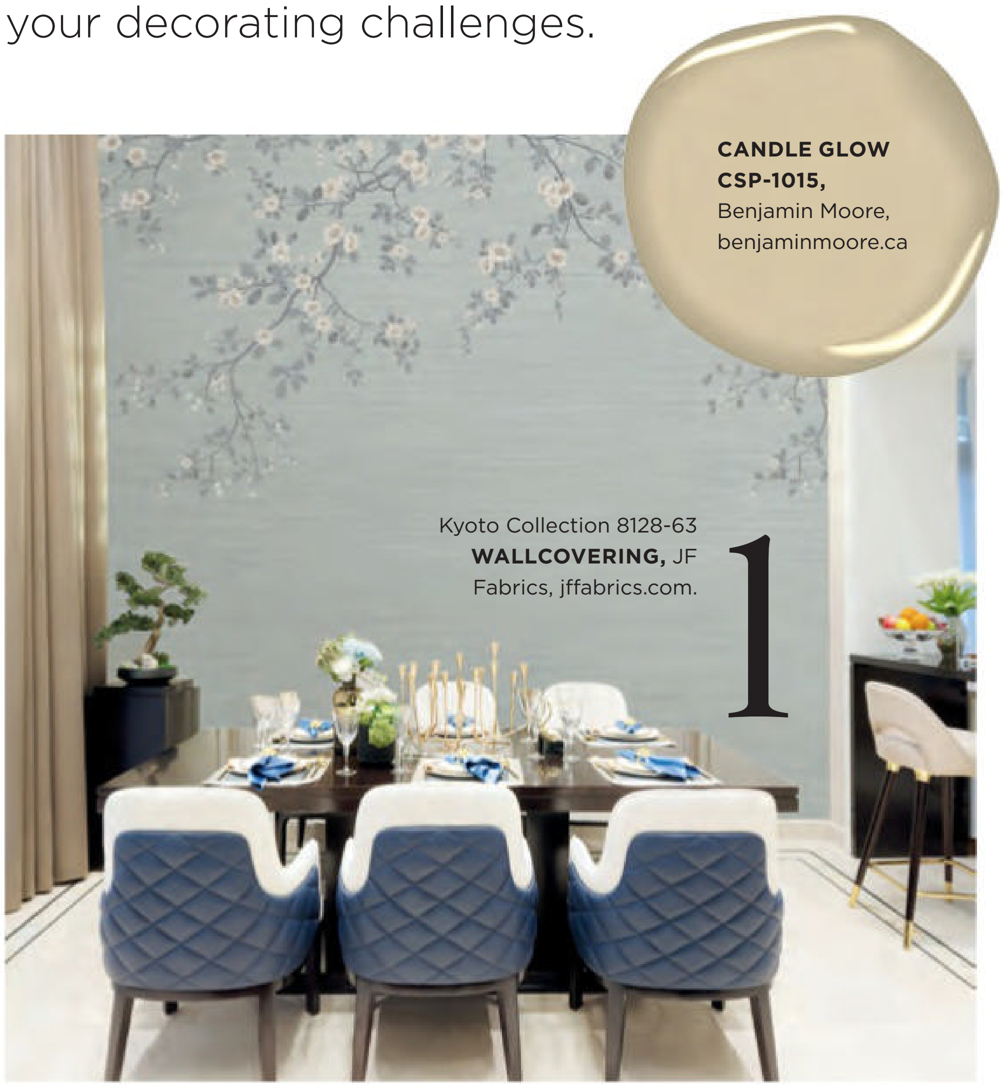
FOR SOURCES, SEE OUR WORKBOOK



PHOTOGRAPHY, KIELY RAMOS PHOTOGRAPHY. STYLING, MARGOT AUSTIN

Ask Us

You've got design questions. We've got the answers. Designer and *Style at Home* contributor Karl Lohnes solves your decorating challenges.



CANDLE GLOW CSP-1015, Benjamin Moore, benjaminmoore.ca

Kyoto Collection 8128-63 **WALLCOVERING,** JF Fabrics, jffabrics.com.

1

1 My 20-year-old burgundy-colour dining room needs an update. I'd like to create an intimate dining space. I am not afraid of colour but would like some new ones for a more cozy feeling. In the rest of my house, I've got light neutrals like taupe and warm toffee. *Lise F., via email*

S@H I'm glad you're not afraid to be dramatic in decorating the dining room. It's one of the rooms in the house that can hold a bit of colour or pattern without needing to match other spaces. I suggest wallpaper. When choosing a pattern, link it to other colours in your home, but also choose one with an interesting accent colour so the dining room stands apart. A beautiful seagrass wallpaper with a silk texture could look very elegant with your home's palette. Or consider a mural. Note that murals don't have to be scenic; I love the subtle details in JF Fabric's Kyoto Collection. Then paint the ceiling a toffee colour, like Benjamin Moore's Candle Glow CSP-1015, to visually lower the ceiling and to create an intimate feel and a lovely golden glow. Finally, add drapery side panels to the windows in a shade darker than the main wallpaper colour.

2 I live in a small long-term rental apartment and want to redecorate. I'd like to create a formal space with antiques, fireplace mantel, fancy sconces and more. I have no idea how to start this makeover. Shopping, organizing painting, refinishing furniture, reupholstering — it seems overwhelming. What options do I have, as a busy single professional, to make my vision — as grand as I imagine it — come to be?

Pasquale C., Toronto

S@H Start the process by creating a visual storyboard (virtual or hard copy), as this will keep you focused and help you communicate your vision to others. Many people choose their wall colours first, but I make decisions on fabrics, art and rugs first; then near the end, I choose a colour that links everything together. In your spare time, look online for vintage, antique and secondhand furnishings. Don't forget to look at retailers who produce quality reproductions, since this can save much time in your search. If the process still feels too daunting or time consuming, hire an interior decorator to help with some of the work, such as hunting for antiques and special pieces. Many work on partial projects, so you needn't feel obligated to work with them from the beginning to the end of the project. If you give over some tasks, your makeover will feel more doable.

2

English Baroque **MIRROR,** RH, rh.com. Vintage Turkish Antalya 4'10" x 6'9" **RUG,** Ecarpetgallery, ecarpetgallery.com.

3

Nikka tufted **STORAGE OTTOMAN,** Structube, structube.com.

4

CRISP LINEN MQ3-13,
Behr, Home Depot,
homedepot.ca

3 I need your advice on arranging my living room/parlour. The space is small and narrow, and the ceiling is 19 feet high. I would like to create an informal conversation area and would love some help with furniture size and placement, wall decor, and advice on whether we should add an area rug.

Melissa B., via email

S@H Small rooms with very high ceilings are tricky because they often appear to have more square footage than they actually do. The secret to furnishing such a space is to buy size-appropriate furniture, use wall decor to draw the eye up (to show off the height as a feature), and then unite the elements with an area rug. Here are a few specifics.

✦ Ensure the sofa is no more than two-thirds of the width of the room. In your small room, I suggest a sofa around seven feet long. Place it at the end of the room so that it absorbs a bit of the length, since you've got more length than width.

✦ Position two matching accent chairs facing the sofa. Ensure they are no larger than 36 inches square. In lieu of a coffee table, add a cocktail-table-height ottoman between the sofa and the chairs; top it with a large tray when entertaining or use it as additional seating in a pinch.

✦ For the walls, add stationary drapery side panels to soften the space and emphasize the height of the ceiling. Use artwork that stacks vertically to draw the eye upward. If there's space between the top of the windows and the ceiling, add art, mirrors or a large clock for a decorative element.

✦ An area rug will unite the elements and make the room cozy. Be sure that the front legs of any furniture grouping are sitting on the rug. A six-by-nine-foot or eight-by-10-foot rug will fit your small parlour well, and a pattern or design in the centre of the rug will bring beauty to the centre of the space.

4 I'd like to find a warm white or light beige paint colour to use throughout my main floor. I have many gold- and caramel-coloured elements (flooring, furniture and wood trim) and would like to balance those so the walls don't look too yellow. *Karen P., Nanaimo, B.C.*

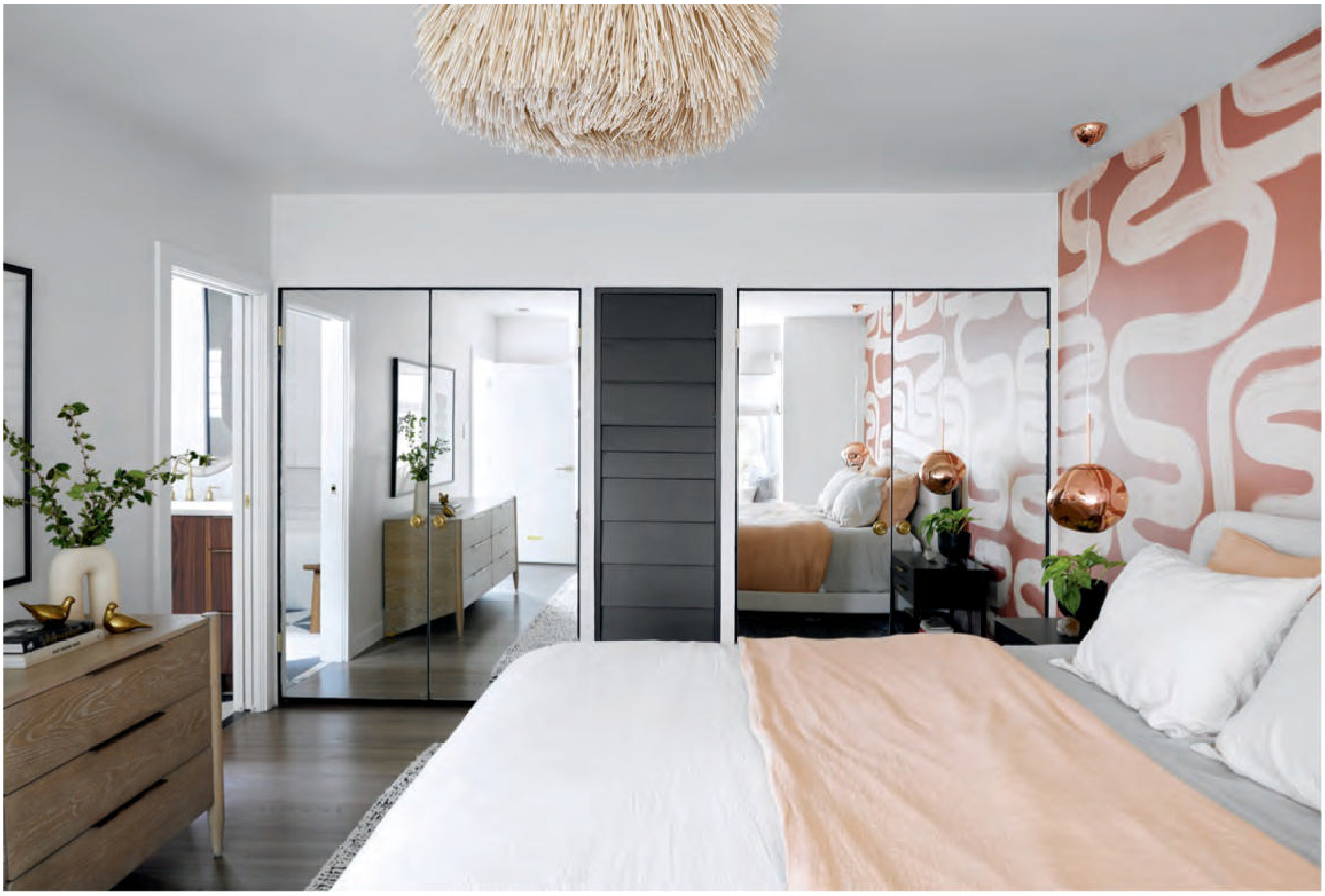
S@H I suggest an off-white/beige paint colour with a cool brown undertone. The brown base will ensure that the walls look warm, while the cool undertone will counter all the existing yellow tones. I suggest Behr's Crisp Linen MQ3-13. This colour will look great in rooms facing north or south and won't be too blue or overly yellow.

→ We'd love to help solve your decorating questions!
Email us at askus@styleathome.com.

the SUITE spot

A bedroom and home office joined by a bathroom come together with panache.

TEXT MARTHA UNIACKE BREEN | **PHOTOGRAPHY** PHIL CROZIER



The owners (shown opposite) of this Calgary home had, says designer Reena Sotropa, renovated their main floor several years ago but had postponed redoing the upper floor, fearing that little could be saved. The primary bedroom lacked architectural charm, and the other bedroom, a former nursery, was serving as a home office despite a whimsical paint job (which might have raised a few eyebrows during online meetings!). Joining the two spaces was a bathroom straight from a 1970s horror movie: cedar panelling, wall-to-wall broadloom and chocolate brown fixtures. But Reena and her colleagues were unfazed – they turned this '70s show into a sleek, pulled-together suite with an airy, modern verve.

Terra Firma

A vibrant terracotta-and-cream mural sets the tone for a bright and cheery primary bedroom; touches of charcoal ground the decor and keep things crisp.

Reena's Pro Tip | "In rooms with little architectural interest, rely on simple, bold statements, such as a feature wallcovering, or an unexpected light fixture or art piece."

DESIGN, Reena Sotropa, Reena Sotropa In House Design Group. **PAINT,** Alabaster OC-129 (walls), Black Jack 2133-20 (closet millwork and trim), Benjamin Moore. **DRESSER,** Crate and Barrel. **RUG,** U-shaped **VASE,** H&M Home. **ART,** Dan Hobday Art via Etsy. Azteca **MURAL** in Sundance, Drop It Modern. Melt Mini LED **PENDANTS** in Copper, Tom Dixon. Metalwork **NIGHTSTANDS,** West Elm. Cozy Slub Collection **BED LINENS** in Brass, Urban Outfitters Home.

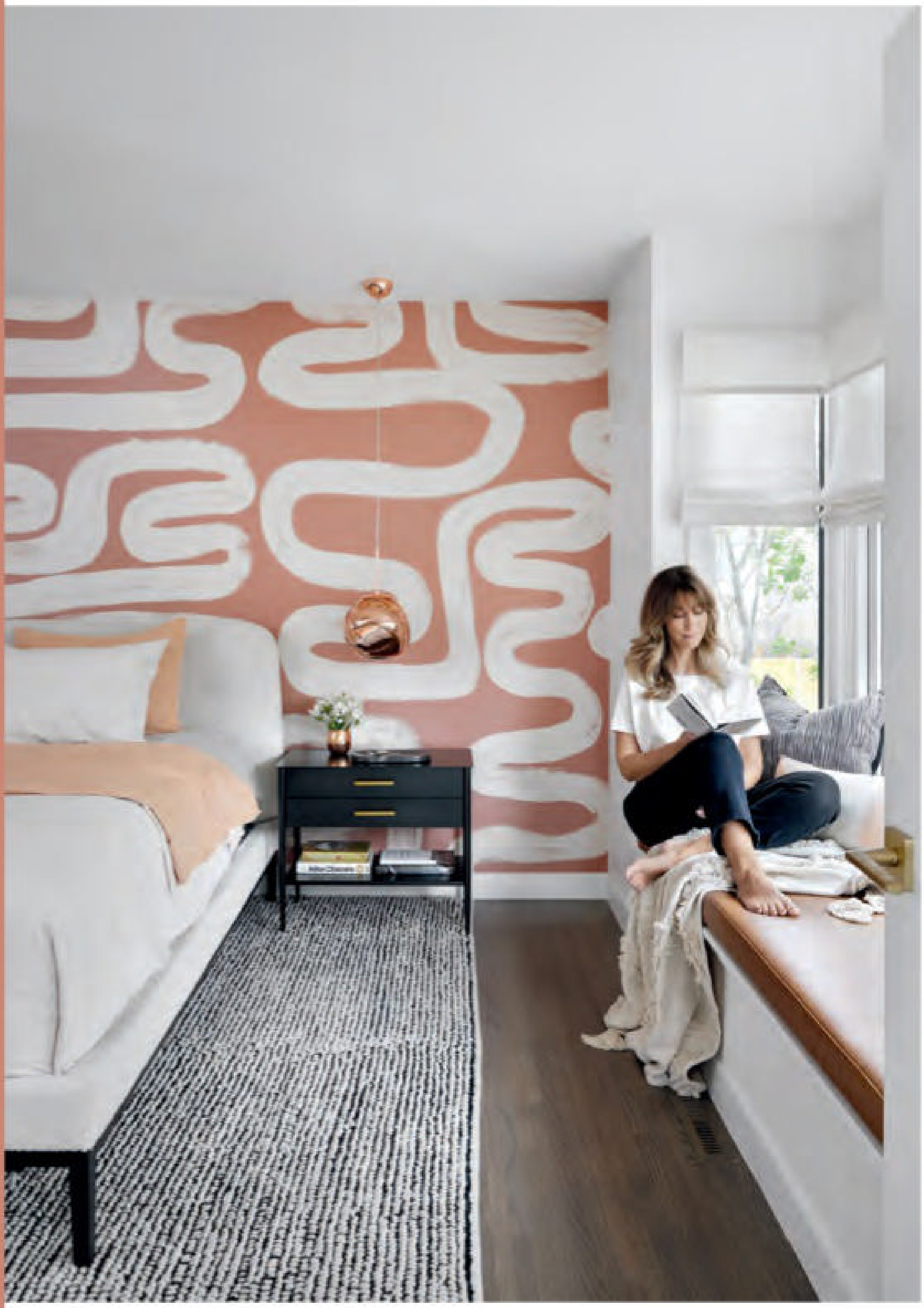
They Go Together

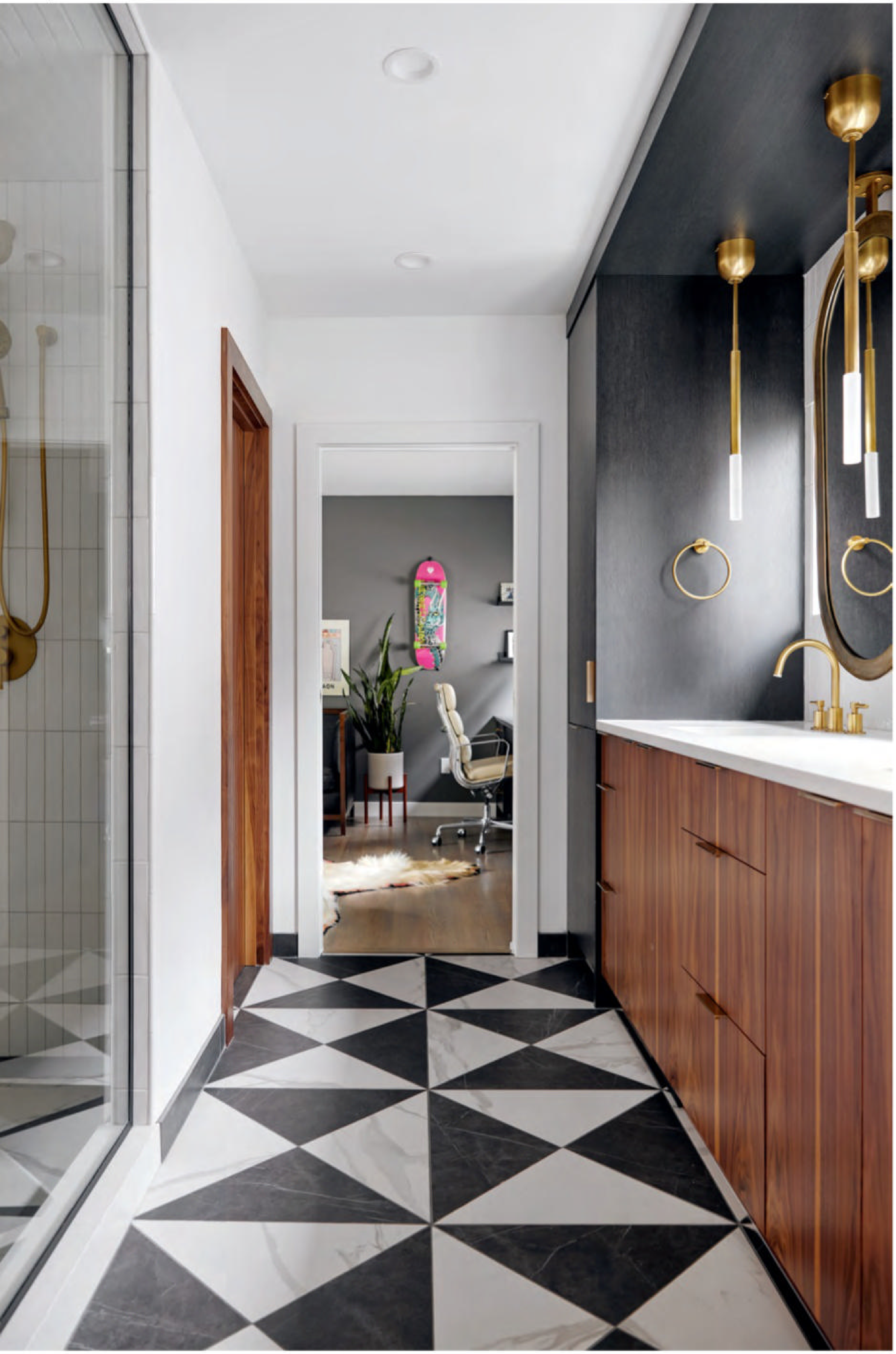
The bathroom links the two bedrooms, and none of the three rooms are very large, so Reena repeated elements from each room in the others; for example, the soft charcoal of the home office walls appears in touches in the other rooms. The effect is a sophisticated, pulled-together look that makes the entire "suite" feel more expansive.

Reena's Pro Tip | "When designing and decorating spaces that flow into one another, be sure to select unifying finishes, colours and design elements to create spaces that feel cohesive."

Woven-wood shade system **WINDOW TREATMENT,** Global Shades. **PILLOWS,** Kelly Wearstler's Vertex fabric in Black (square, in window); Stroheim's Vacherin Ombre fabric in Cameo (lumbar); In House Design Group. **THROW,** H&M Home. Soleste rattan fringe **PENDANT** (over bed), RH Teen.

BEDROOM





In Balance

To soften any hard edges in the bathroom, Reena chose accents in soft shades of graphite and alabaster, rather than pure black and white, and warmed things up with walnut cabinetry.

Reena's Pro Tip | "Be sure to balance statement elements, such as a boldly patterned floor, with visually quiet materials, colours and details that will support and accent the main feature."

PAINT, Chantilly Lace OC-65, Benjamin Moore. **FLOORING,** Anima Series in Calacatta Oro Matte and Graphite Matte, Ames Tile.

Illuminating Idea

Two small, high windows were joined to create one. In front of it, oval mirrors were suspended on custom brass supports for a clean, shipshape look; simple pendants finish the look.

Reena's Pro Tip | "With awkwardly placed bathroom windows, take advantage of natural light by installing your vanity underneath the window, and consider out-of-the-box installation methods for mirrors and lighting."

Abel Oval **MIRRORS,** CB2. Kelly Wearstler's Rousseau Single **PENDANTS** in Antique Burnished Brass, Visual Comfort.

Clean Design

Combining the tub and shower in a single tiled area maximizes elbow room for both long, hot baths and quick showers, and frees up space for a separate pink-walled loo.

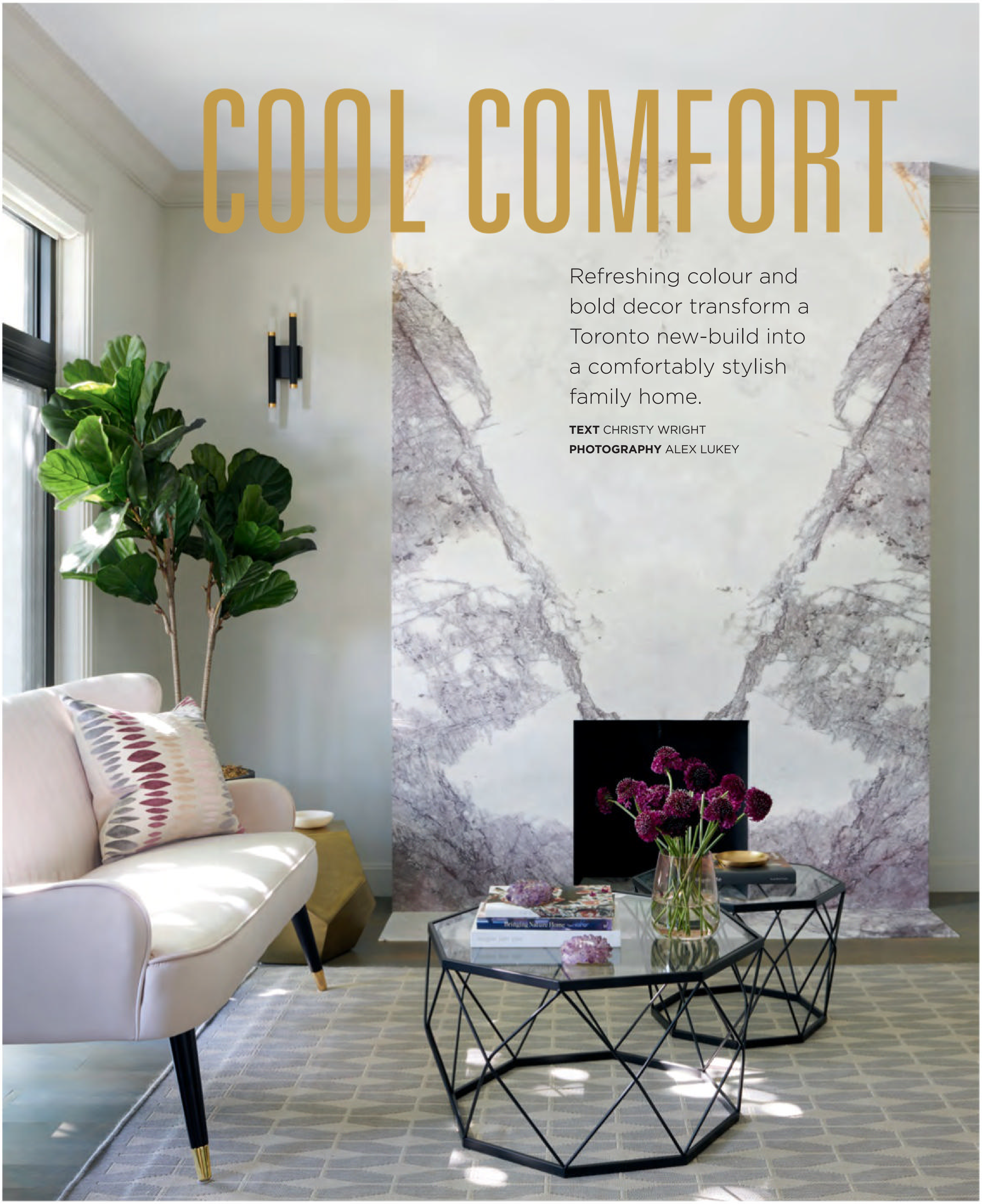
Reena's Pro Tip | "A wet room configuration – where the shower and tub are set off in one area – is an effective way of minimizing wasted space."

Kyushi **SHOWER TILE** in Bianco Gloss, Stone Tile West. **ART,** *Relationship No. 14*, Sarah Rutledge. **VANITY COUNTERTOP** and **SHOWER CURB,** 4141 Misty Carrera quartz, Caesarstone.

FOR SOURCES, SEE OUR WORKBOOK

BATHROOM

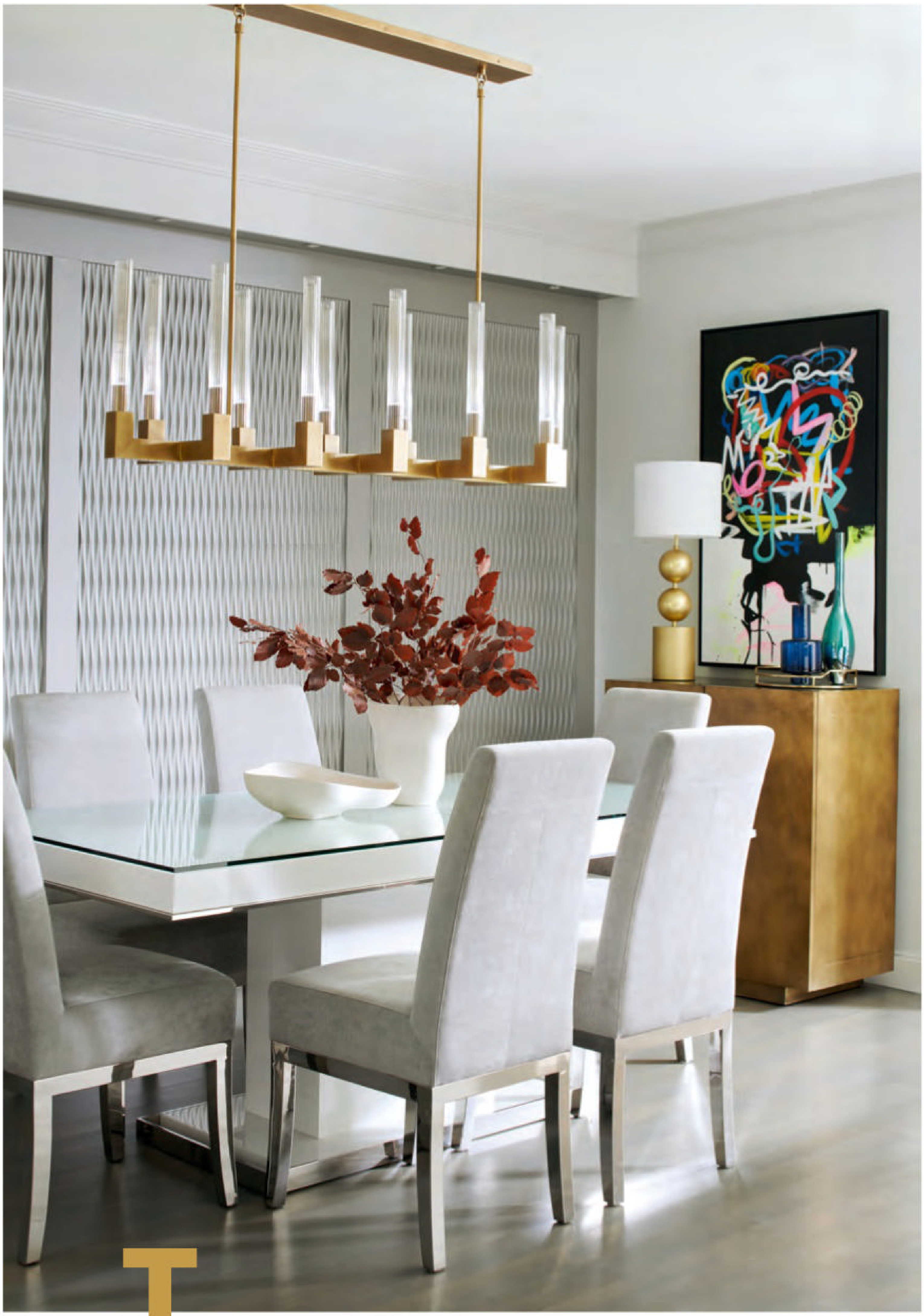
BEFORE



COOL COMFORT

Refreshing colour and bold decor transform a Toronto new-build into a comfortably stylish family home.

TEXT CHRISTY WRIGHT
PHOTOGRAPHY ALEX LUKEY



Tip #1

STONE WORKS An unexpected palette shifts the once-neutral living room into wow-factor overdrive. “For the fireplace, we collectively decided on a stone slab featuring incredible veining in shades of lilac and amethyst,” says designer Natasha Penzo. “It truly informed all the other design decisions in the room.” The marble is thrown into high relief against grey walls and is beautifully complemented by a pale pink sofa. Graphic black accessories keep the look vibrant, and a rug softens the space while adding pattern and texture.

DESIGN, Natasha Penzo; **CONSTRUCTION PROJECT MANAGEMENT;** Urban Blueprint Design + Build. **FIREPLACE MARBLE,** Marble Trend. **SOFA,** Structube. **COFFEE TABLES, CUSHION,** HomeSense. Gold **SIDE TABLE,** West Elm. **RUG,** Wayfair.

Tip #2

METAL WINNERS The dining room features a bold mash-up of neutral, silvery tones and flashes of gold. “I’m never afraid to mix metals,” says Natasha. “The juxtaposition of materials always brings life to a space.” The shimmering presence of the gold-toned chandelier is furthered by a golden table lamp and hutch. Vibrant artwork and blue vases spice up the mix with colourful intrigue.

CHANDELIER, RH. **SIDEBOARD,** CB2. **LAMP,** Arteriors.

The owners of this home fell for its prime midtown location and the 4,000 square feet of space it offered them and their two young children, but its aesthetic underwhelmed. “My clients had previously lived in Hong Kong and London, England, so the blank-slate home didn’t meet their global, eclectic style,” says designer Natasha Penzo, co-founder of Homekin and Urban Blueprint Design. She knew the owners were open to taking risks and that informed a design plan replete with bold furniture, flashes of mixed metallics, and refreshing hues, from pastels to primary colours. Says Natasha, “It’s now a comfortable family home that’s also cool and colourful.”

Tip #3

FINISHING TOUCHES "In the kitchen, a little went a long way!" says Natasha. "By simply swapping out the original island pendants for two stunning brass fixtures and adding plush velvet counter stools with pleated details, I was able to create more depth and warmth in the space. Immediately, the kitchen felt elevated and looks, to put it simply, more interesting." Her genius mix of warm and cool tones achieves a casual sophistication that's inviting.

PENDANT LIGHTS, Visual Comfort. **STOOLS,** Sunpan.

Tip #4

FINE ARTS Natasha relied on contemporary artwork to add colourful zing to the entry hall at the back of the home (left) and to the kitchen nook. "Art doesn't have to have rhyme or reason," she says, "it's an opportunity to express oneself with content, texture and also, very importantly, colour. If it happens to have similar colours as your furniture, that's great, but it's not a necessity." Brass framing on the chairs ties into the kitchen's pendants while subtly referencing the gold in the dining room.

BANQUETTE CHAIRS, Rove Concepts. **CONSOLE** (in hallway), **BANQUETTE BENCH,** CB2. **ARTWORK** (in hallway), Kathryn MacNaughton.

"Colour has a positive impact on our mood, and I think that's why more people are taking risks with it."

SPECIAL OFFER

CANADA'S
styleathome
ASK US! Your DESIGN Questions ANSWERED
The BEFORE & AFTER issue
VEG POWER!
Get a boost from colourful, delicious & healthy plant-based recipes

1 YEAR FOR ONLY

$24.95

~~$62.91~~

The newsstand cover price

Style at Home is Canada's top resource to inspire FABULOUS DECORATING, LATEST DESIGNS and ENTERTAINING IDEAS.

styleathome.com/subscribe

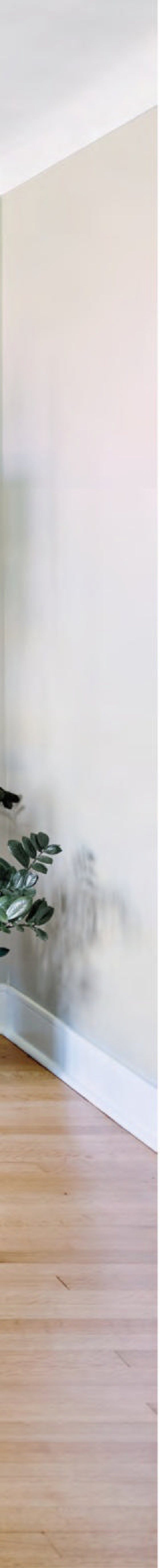
Please allow 4-8 weeks for delivery of the first issue. Offer valid in Canada only until March 31, 2023. Taxes not included.

APRIL/MAY 2023

CELEBRATE COLOUR

Colour is one of the most personal elements in home decor. There are trends – hence, colour-of-the-year announcements and seasonal collections of housewares – but in the end, what colour you put on your walls, which paintings you collect, and what rug you buy should be based on what makes your heart sing. Pink, beige, black, white or blue – ignore the naysayers. If a colour makes you smile, go for happiness every time.

PHOTOGRAPHY, JANET KIMBER



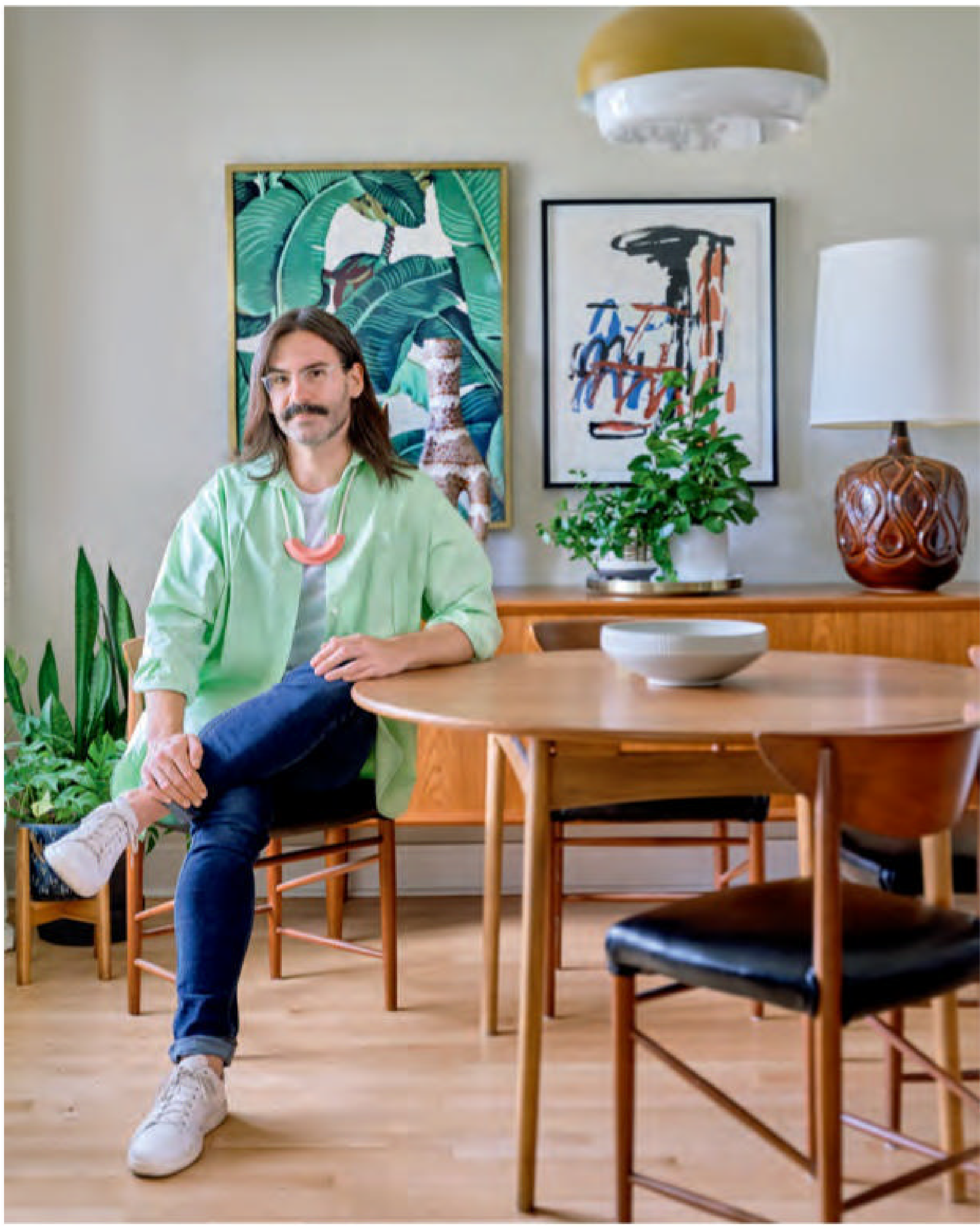
RETRO ROMANCE

A 1950s bungalow features a whimsically yet skillfully curated collection of 20th-century art and *objets*. **TEXT** MARTHA UNIACKE BREEN | **PHOTOGRAPHY** JANET KIMBER

Jem Pellerin, the head of scenography at the Canadian Museum of History in Gatineau, Que., and a former exhibition designer, has a collector's eye for unique art, furnishings and *objets*. They are particularly drawn to pieces from the mid-20th century – a peak time when style blended perfectly with function – but every era from the 1920s to the '70s is represented in their delightfully eclectic collection. In fact, Jem recently opened an online store, DoloresRetro, where they can share their passion for, as they put it, these "found objects that hit the quintessential mark between granny chic and Midcentury Modern."

Before buying this circa '50s house in Gatineau, Jem had bought and remodelled several 1920s houses. Unlike those older homes, this one had a more relaxed feeling – the perfect setting for Jem to create an easygoing homage to Midcentury Modern, without having to get too serious about it.

In other words, says Jem, while a sleek Danish-inspired dining set and streamlined teak sideboard seem perfectly suited to a midcentury home, there's no rule that says you can't put circa 1980s pink paint on the kitchen walls, reproduction 1930s flower-power wallpaper in the bedroom, or display 1960s collectible Metlox serving pieces in the family room. "I don't want to make it like a museum," says Jem. "I want it to be comfortable, without being too nostalgic. I want it to feel like my home." After all, Jem already works in a museum. Why would they want to live in one?

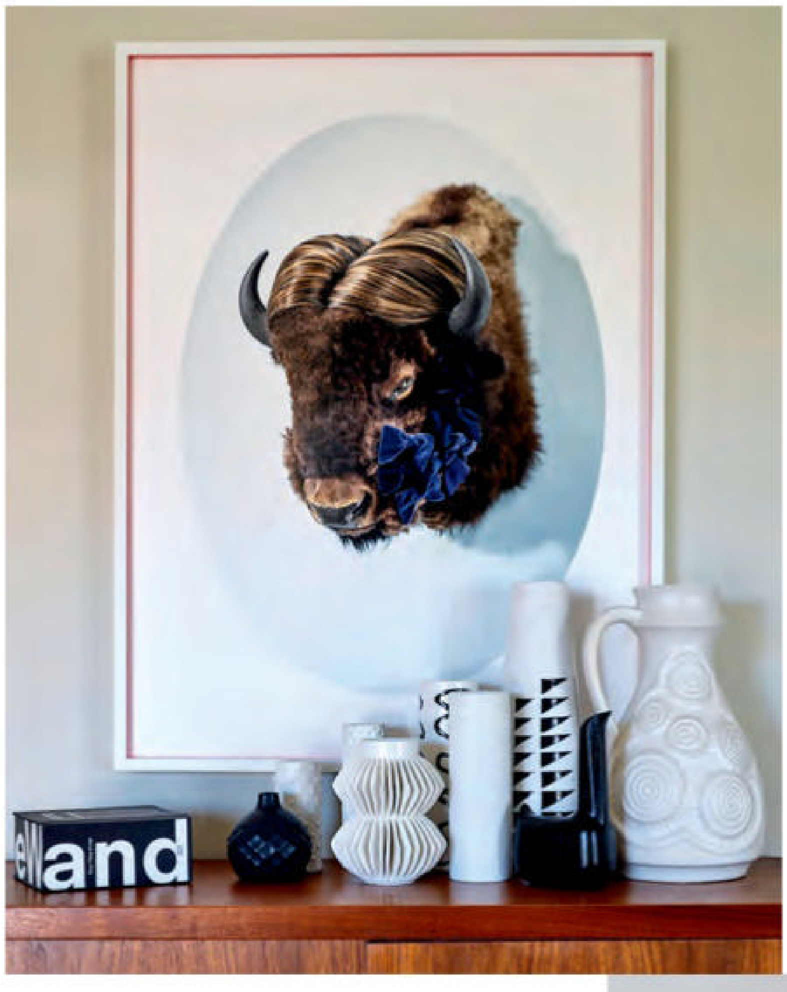


OPPOSITE & ABOVE Although the dining table, chairs and sideboard all came from different sources and manufacturers, the pieces fit together beautifully, which is one of the great aspects of Midcentury Modern furniture design. Jem Pellerin (shown above) says that the banana leaf wallpaper (framed) is the same pattern used at The Beverly Hills Hotel and on the set of *The Golden Girls*.

DINING TABLE, Antiquités Curiosités. **DINING CHAIRS,** Green Wall Vintage. **BOWL** (on table), Christian Roy Atelier. **CONSOLE,** Founddesign. **BRASS TRAY, BOWLS** (holding greenery), **PLANTERS,** HomeSense. The Iconic Beverly Hills Banana Leaf **WALLPAPER** (framed), Designer Wallcoverings. Ray 17-inch **PENDANT** in Dune, Schoolhouse. **DRAPERY,** West Elm. **WALL PAINT,** Natural Cream OC-14, Benjamin Moore.

“When people come into my home, I would like them to see things that make them think of their aunt’s or grandmother’s house.”

Liz Slone
HISTORICAL ATLAS
TORONTO
TRES BRITISH



LEFT This photograph of a mounted bison head wearing a wig and blue velvet bows by a Toronto-based artist is one of Jem's favourites simply because, as they say, "Well, why not?" Underneath it is a grouping of bottles and other interesting objects linked by colour, shape and pattern – a favourite way to show off the small items Jem enjoys collecting.

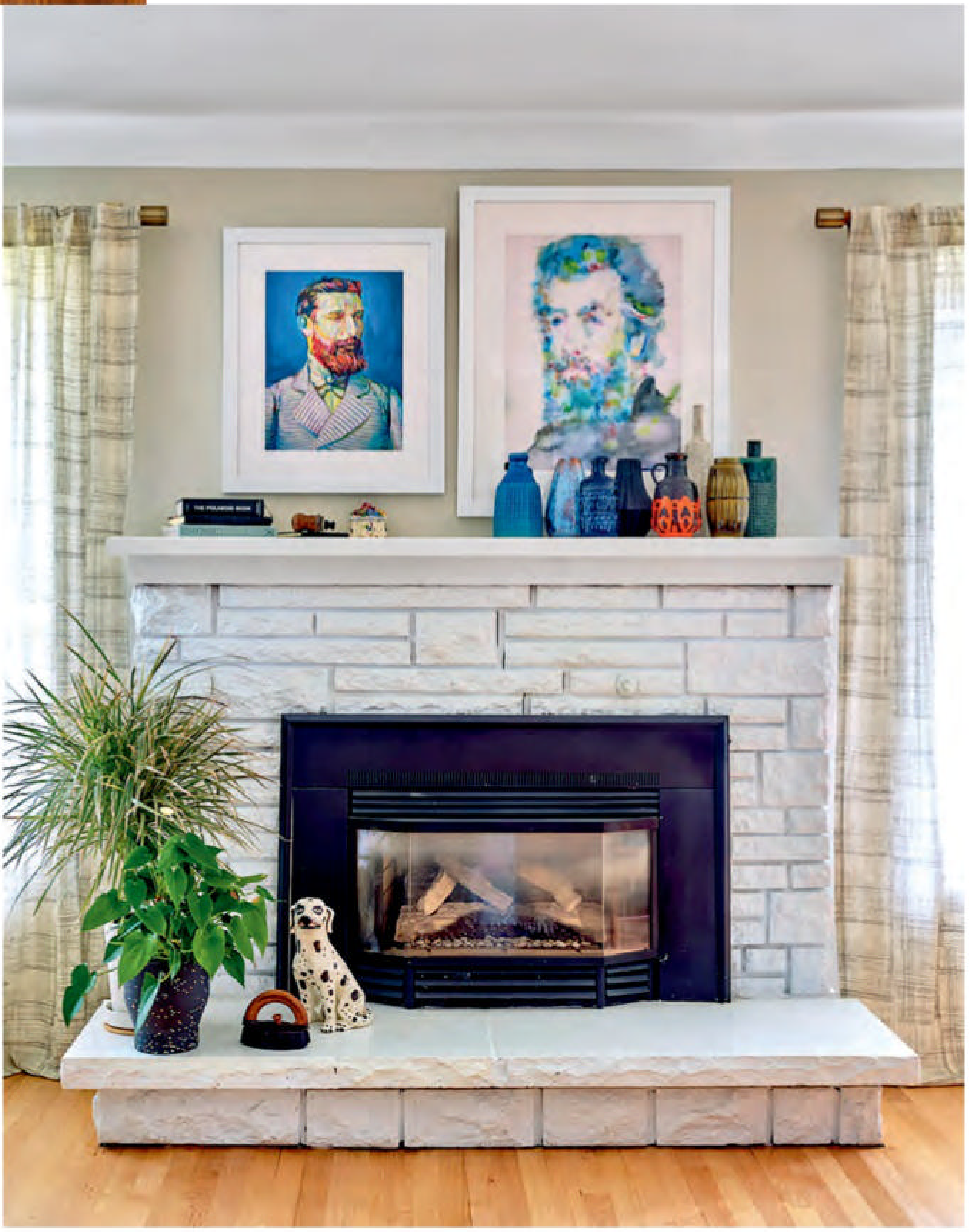
Buffalo **ART,** Anna Church. Vintage and contemporary **POTTERY,** DoloresRetro via Etsy, CB2.

OPPOSITE Although the sectional sofa is new, its streamlined profile and tapered legs feel very mid-century. Artwork by New York-based realist painter Liz Slome reminded Jem of the illustrations on 1970s McCall's sewing patterns. Says Jem, "My grandmother was a seamstress, so this painting is quite meaningful to me."

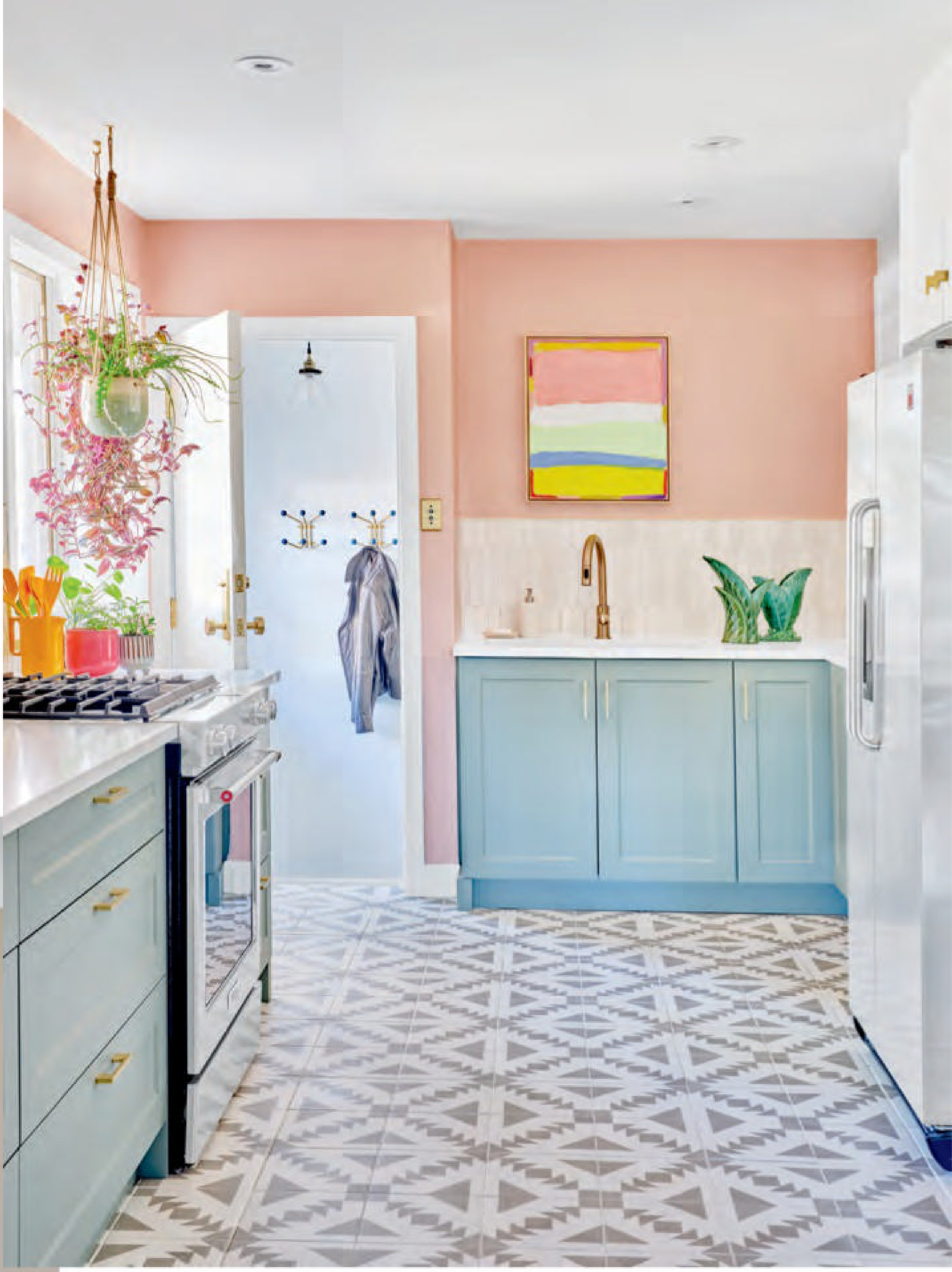
WALL PAINT, Natural Cream OC-14, Benjamin Moore. **SOFA, RUG,** EQ3. **COFFEE TABLE,** Montréal Moderne. **SIDE TABLE,** Zig Zag Collectibles. **LAMP,** West Elm. **PAINTING,** Liz Slome. Glass **BOWL,** DoloresRetro via Etsy. **SCULPTURE,** Working Artifacts. **THROW,** Simons. **CUSHIONS,** HomeSense, Zone. **PLANTERS,** HomeSense.

RIGHT Portraits of men with beards have been a collecting passion of Jem's for years, and appear throughout the home. Above the mantel is a portrait of Herman Melville (on the right); on the left is a piece inspired by an Edwardian photograph.

ART (above mantel, left), limited-edition giclée print, Aaron Smith; (right), Lau Tir art print, Saatchi Art. **BOTTLES** (on mantel), DoloresRetro via Etsy, Bungalow, CB2. **DALMATIAN SCULPTURE,** 1830s **SMOKING PIPE,** 1930s ceramic **TRINKET BOX,** antique **IRON,** DoloresRetro via Etsy. **PLANTER,** The Northern Habitat. **DRAPERY,** West Elm.



> *“The combination of this salmon pink colour with the green cabinetry and white tile feels very 1950s to me.”*



LEFT & ABOVE The artwork in the kitchen partly inspired the room’s cheery colour choices, especially the striped abstract above the sink and the cloud-like painting in the front hall just outside the kitchen. Both are by Montreal artist and photographer Sophie Asselin.

WALL PAINT, Tofino Sunset CC-156, Benjamin Moore. Delta’s Trinsic pull-down **FAUCET,** Mondeau. Milmonde **CABINETRY,** Celadon Green K503S (lowers), Satin White C35S (uppers), Cuisines Multi-design. **DRAWER HARDWARE,** Rocheleau. **FLOORING,** Harmony’s Cuban Silver Arrow Tiles, Euro Tile and Stone. **ART** (over side sink), Sophie Asselin. Tropical leaf **VASES,** Verve Moderns.

OPPOSITE An eclectic (but charmingly cohesive) display by the stove: collectible Metlox 1960s pitchers; a vintage portrait of a jauntily dressed dog, signed by an unknown artist named Vivienne; Fiestaware, scored on eBay years ago; and two striking original artworks – another bearded man, this one a colourful monoprint, and an ad for Pine-Sol painted on a vintage paint-by-number canvas.

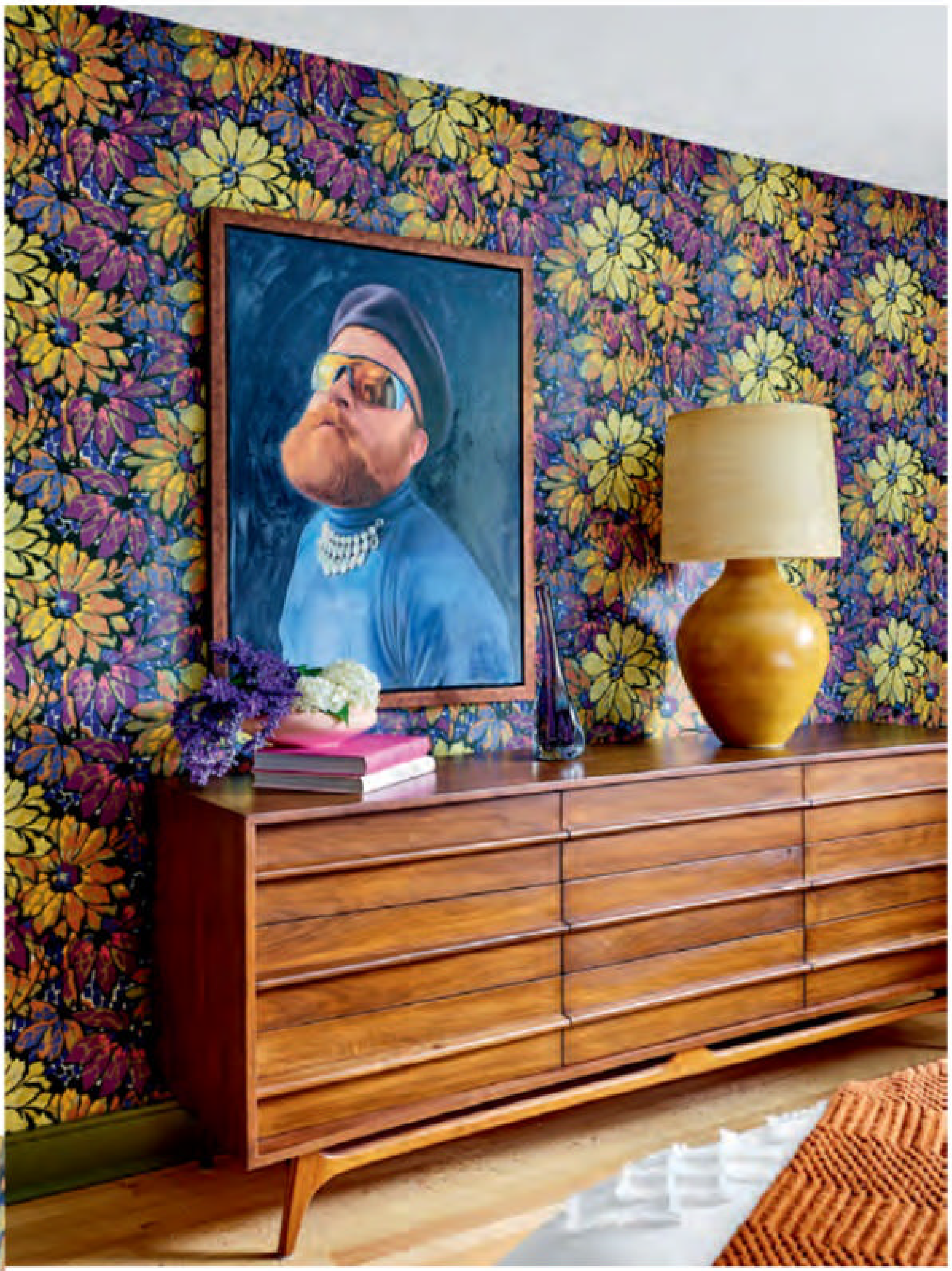
Gradient Crayon **BACKSPLASH TILE,** Wow Design. Allegheny **SCONCES,** Schoolhouse. Vintage midcentury **DOG PAINTING,** DoloresRetro via Etsy. *Pine-Sol* **ART** (left of stove), Christopher Rouleau. **BOWL** (with fruit), Christian Roy Atelier. Vintage Fiestaware Disc **PITCHERS,** eBay.

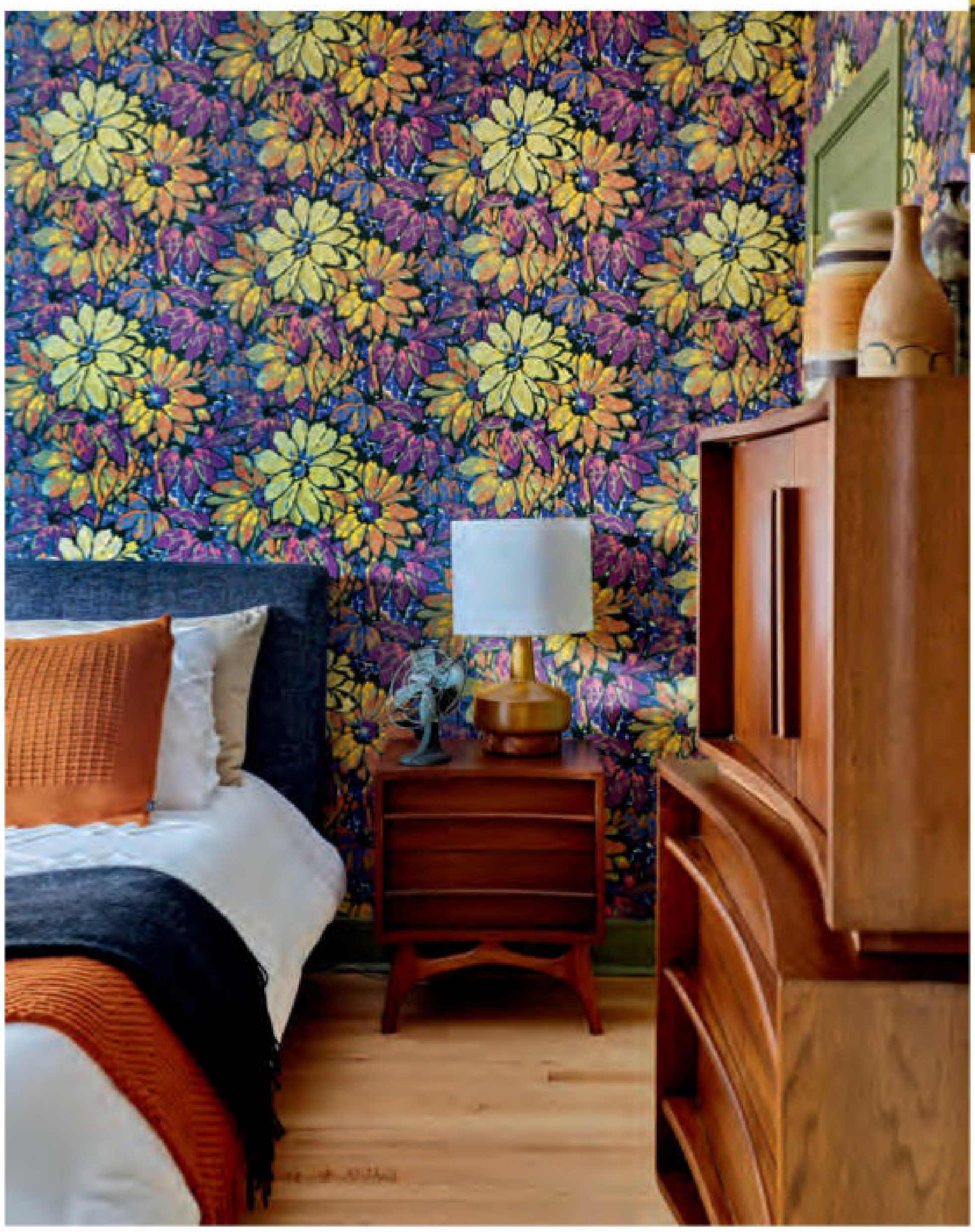
OPPOSITE, RIGHT & BOTTOM LEFT With the exuberant 1930s wallpaper pattern, the primary bedroom feels like a trip back in time – exactly the desired effect. Jem found the curved-front walnut bedroom set in a vintage furniture store. The painting of the bearded man in blue, elegant in a diamond necklace, had an irreverent spirit that Jem really liked.

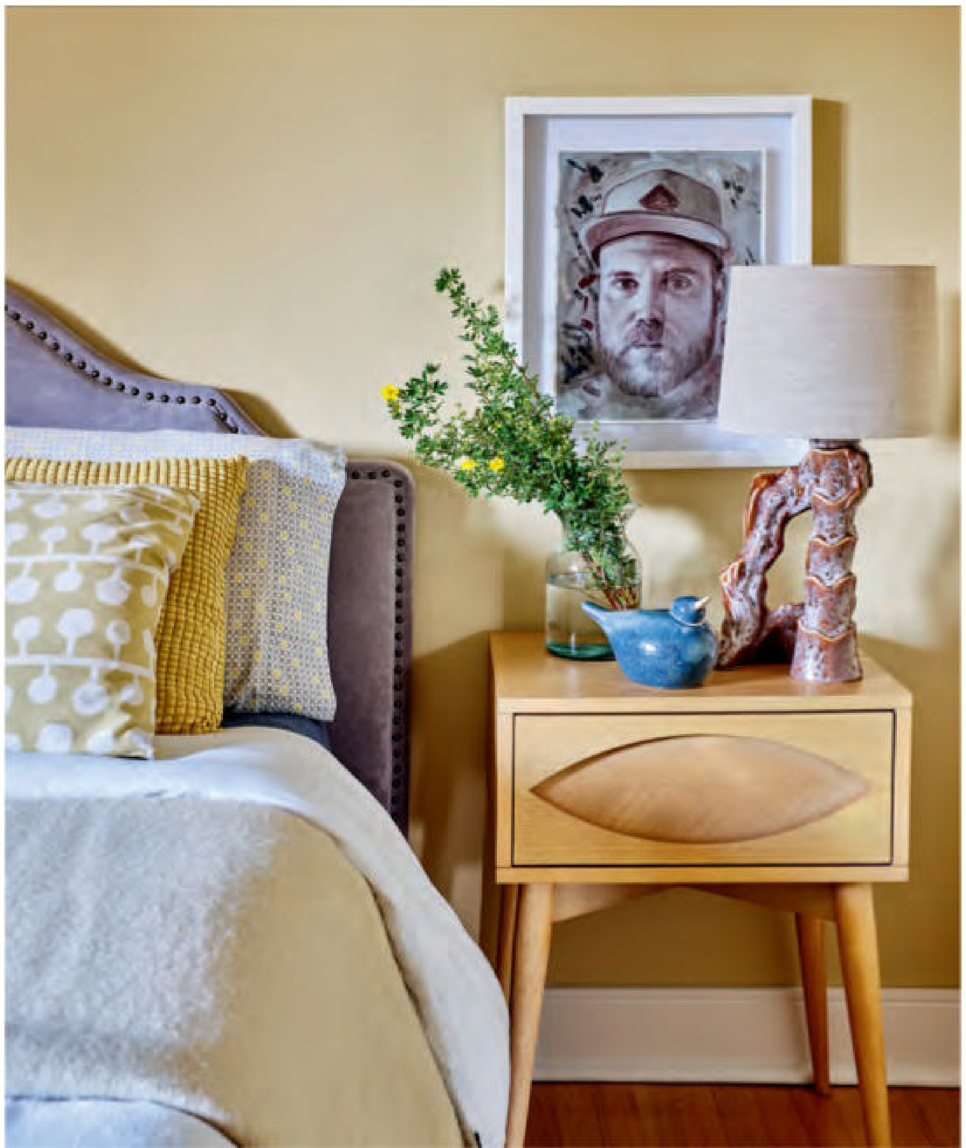
DRESSER, CURVED DRESSER, SIDE TABLES, antique Lotte **LAMP,** Green Wall Vintage. Sven Neptune Blue King **BED,** Article. Pattern 3D-128 **WALLPAPER,** Bradbury & Bradbury. **ART** (over dresser), Ian Stone. Chenille **BEDSPREAD,** Linen House. **FAN** (on side table), **JUGS,** DoloresRetro via Etsy. **DRAPERY, LAMPS** (on side tables), West Elm. Charcoal **THROW,** Álafoss. **PILLOWS,** rust-coloured **THROW,** Simons.

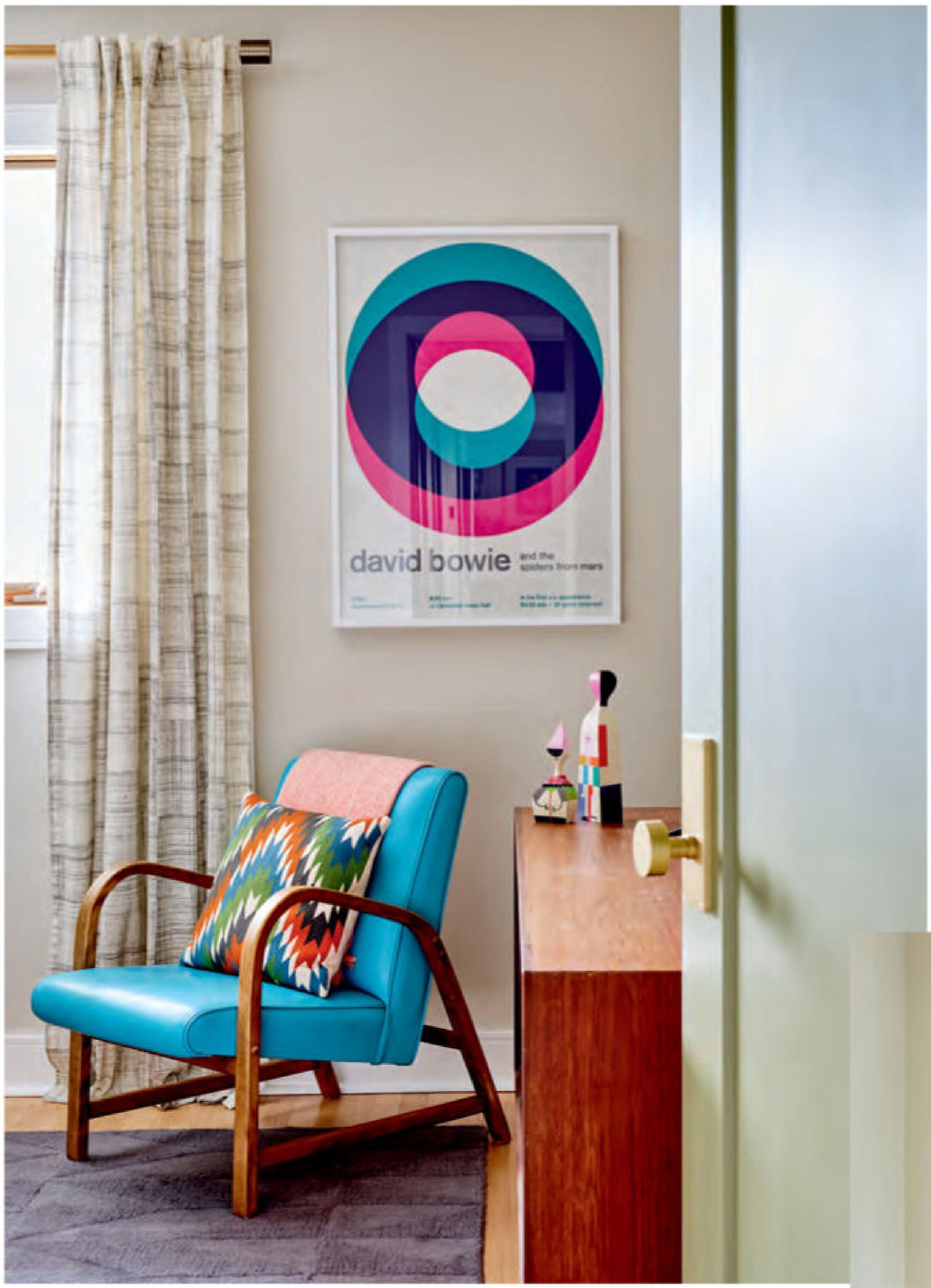
BOTTOM RIGHT The guest bedroom is considerably calmer in mood, but no less interesting; the unusual freeform lamp resembles a piece of driftwood or coral.

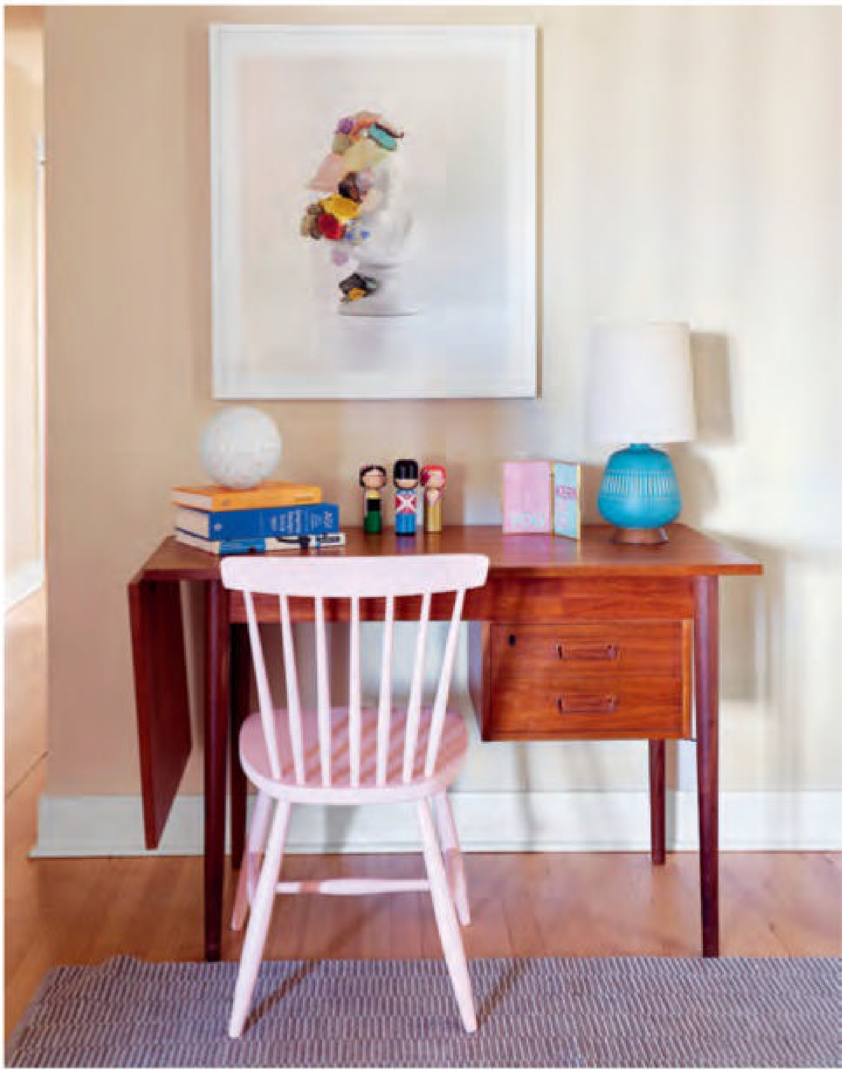
WALL PAINT, Golden Straw 2152-50, Benjamin Moore. **BED,** Structube. **SIDE TABLE,** West Elm. **LAMP,** blue ceramic **BIRD,** DoloresRetro via Etsy. **LINENS,** Simons, Merlaine. **CUSHIONS,** IKEA. **ART,** Ian Stone.

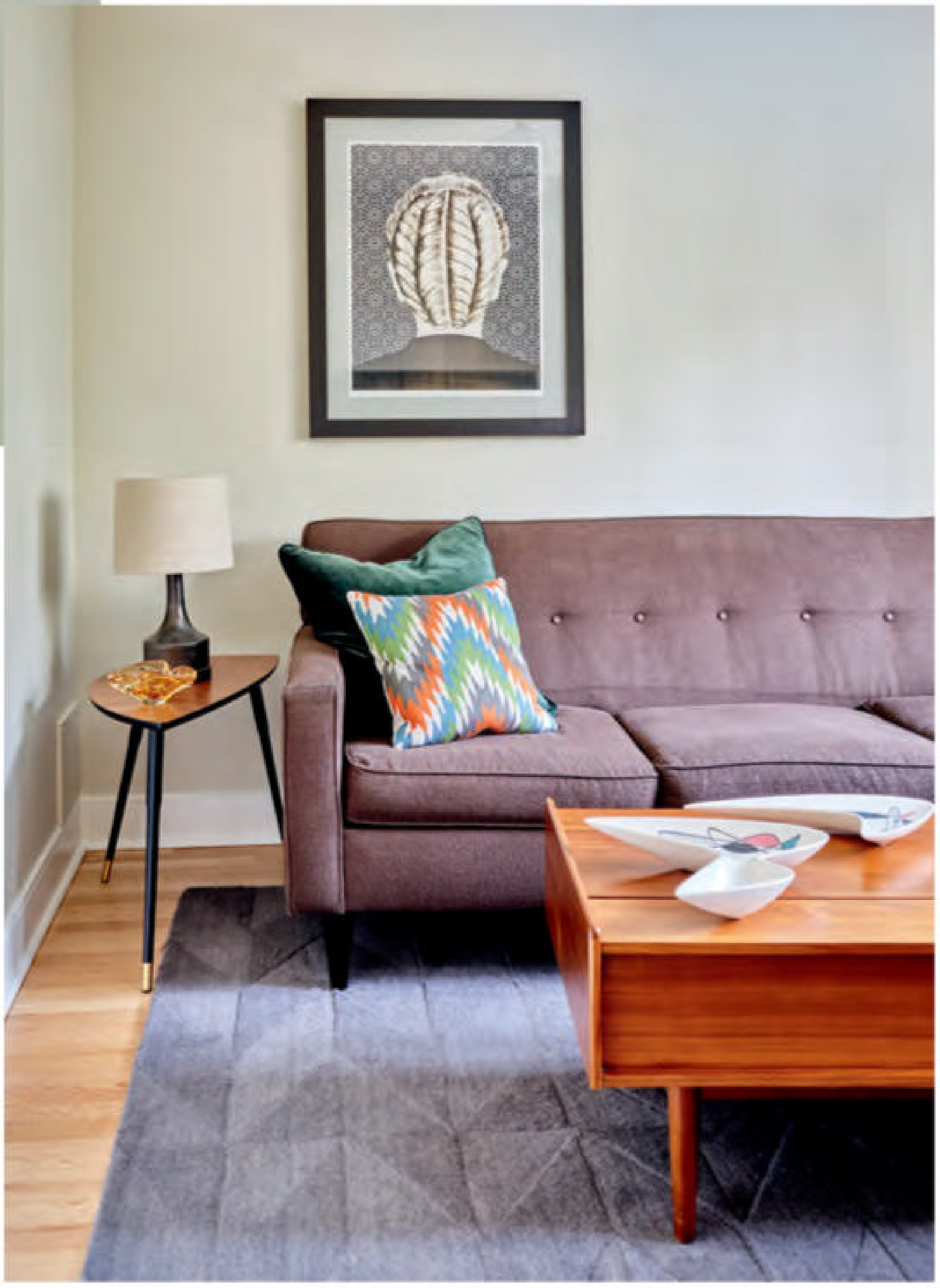










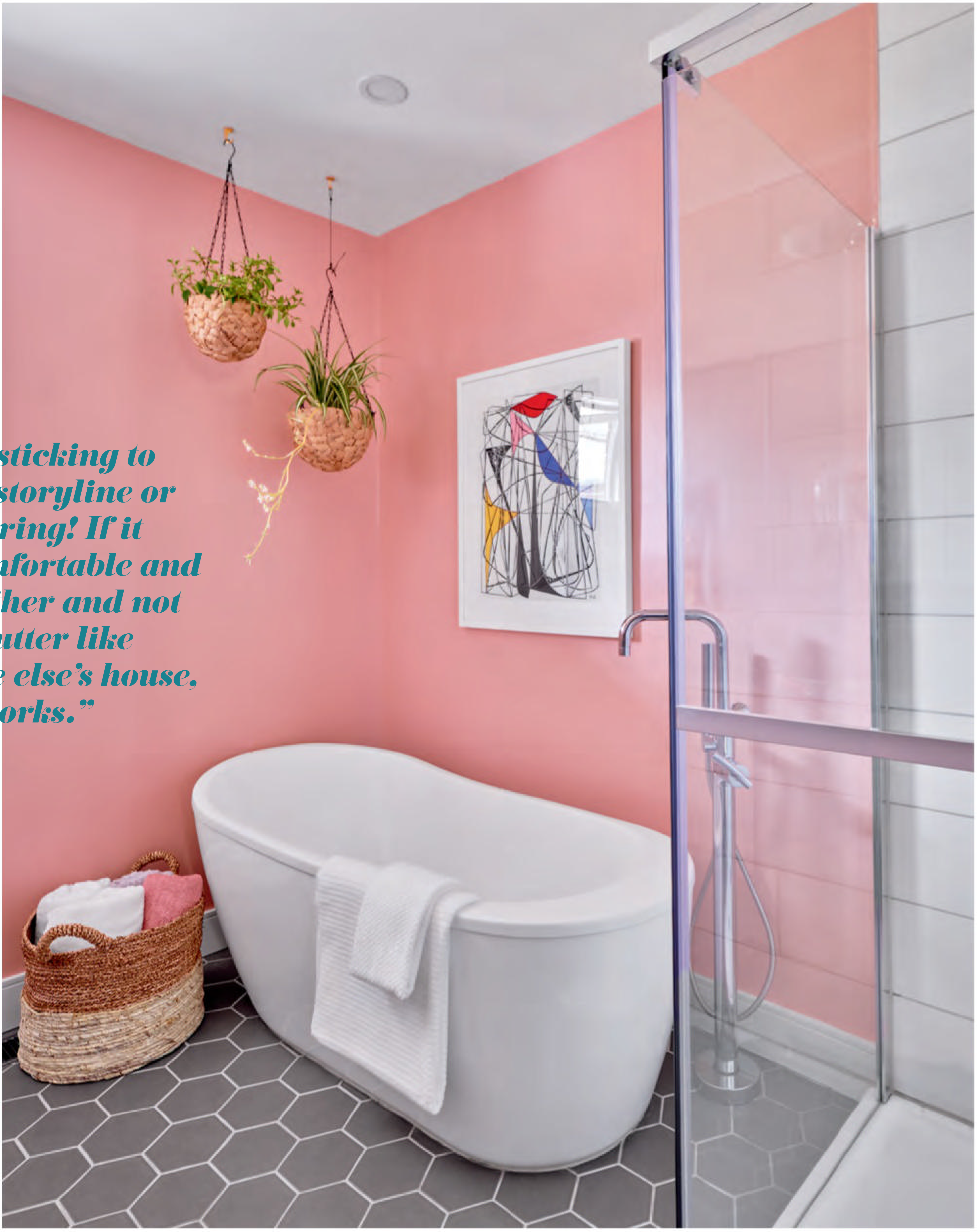


ABOVE & TOP RIGHT The turquoise chair is one of several rescued at the last minute from a school; the chairs were destined for a landfill, even though some were still wrapped in the original plastic from the factory. This one perfectly matches the reimagined concert poster. Another rescue is the wood chair in the front hall, which was given a splash of pink paint by Jem.

WALL PAINT, Natural Cream OC-14, Benjamin Moore. **DRAPERY, RUG, LAMP,** West Elm. **CONSOLE, DESK,** Antiquités Curiosités. **CUSHION,** Crate and Barrel. **THROW** (on chair), Zebuu. Girard wood **DOLLS** (on console), Design Within Reach. **RUG,** Simons. Concert poster **ART,** Mike Joyce. **ART** (above desk), Chad Wys. Kokeshi **DOLLS,** Lucie Kaas.

RIGHT The family room features a vintage-design IKEA side table, along with one of the more enigmatic artworks in Jem's collection: an elaborately coiffed lady with her back to the viewer. The coffee table features more collectible Metlox pieces from the '60s.

ART (above sofa), Sandra Dionisi.



> *"I think sticking to just one storyline or era is boring! If it feels comfortable and put together and not cookie-cutter like everyone else's house, then it works."*

ABOVE The bathroom, painted the same salmon pink as the kitchen, is a restful retreat after a hectic day. It was deliberately kept simple, with the addition of an abstract work and a few houseplants.

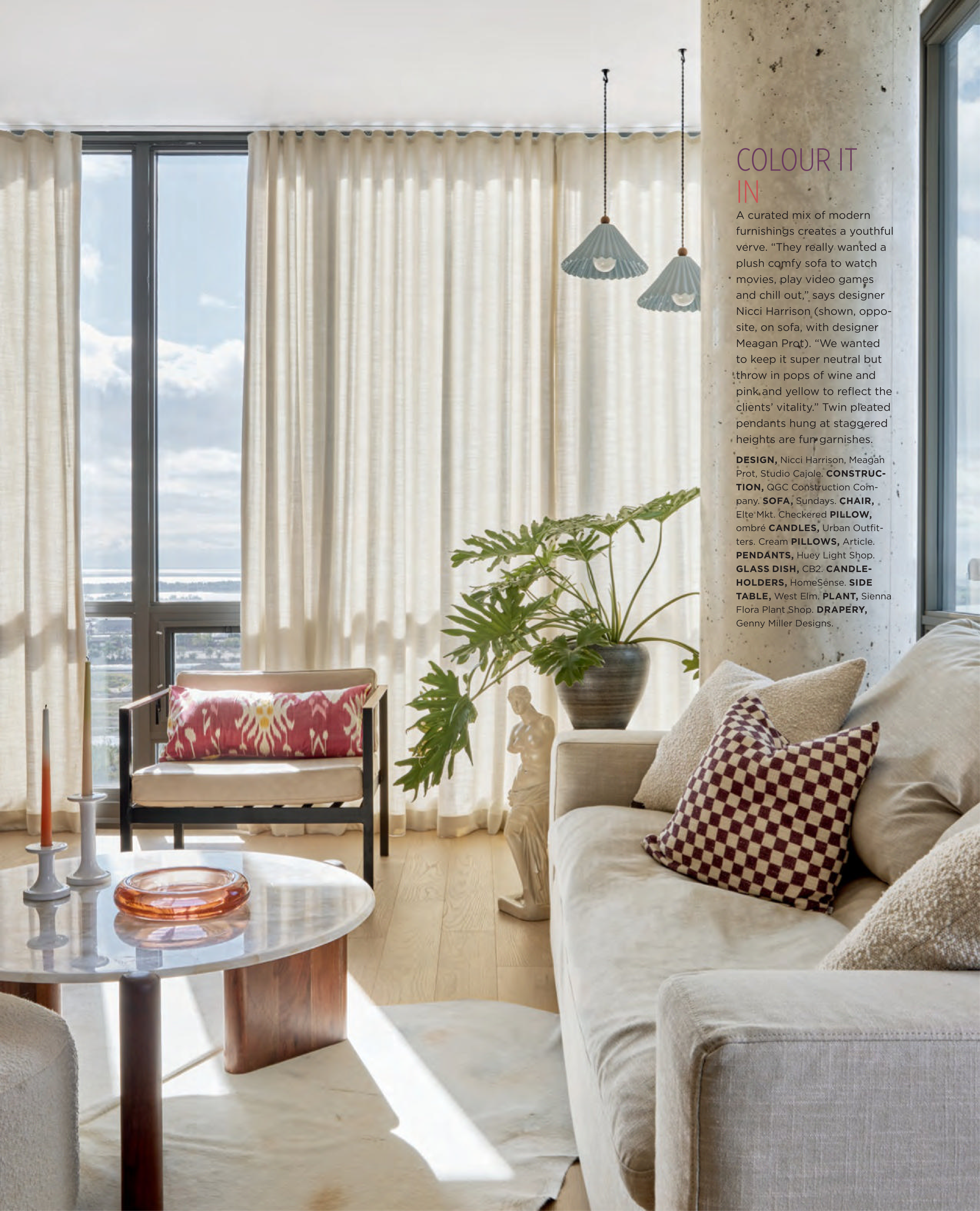
WALL PAINT, Tofino Sunset CC-156, Benjamin Moore. **TUB,** Ove. Glacier Bay standing **TUB FILLER,** Home Depot. Line-Up **SHOWER TILE,** Tierra Sol. Twist **FLOOR TILES,** Ceratec. **ART,** Robert von Bangert. **PLANTERS,** woven **BASKET, TOWELS** (on tub), HomeSense. **TOWELS** (in basket), Simons.

ELEVATED STYLE

Fresh, fun colour and a warm Scandi kitchen add custom flair to a builder-grade condo.

TEXT IRIS BENAROIA
PHOTOGRAPHY LAUREN MILLER

Scant storage and a serious lack of style were the downfall of this condo in Toronto's Distillery District neighbourhood. On the bright side, the couple who owned it were gaga over the views – the southwest facing corner unit captures spectacular sunsets over the city. To give the interior a style lift, they enlisted designers Nicci Harrison and Meagan Prot of Studio Cajole to renovate, alongside QGC Construction Company. "Builder-grade condos can be flat with their finishes," says Nicci. "I wanted to lean into warmth by bringing in organic elements. Think light, bright and fun with tons of texture." To achieve their goal, the designers gutted the two-bedroom unit over eight weeks, then installed a pale Scandi kitchen with an island, so the couple can cook side by side (impossible before), and revamped the bathrooms. The new white oak floors, meanwhile, are a soothing upgrade to the damaged, dark laminate ones. Today, the condo is an elevated version of its former self. And those stunning views? They don't upstage the decor anymore.



COLOUR IT IN

A curated mix of modern furnishings creates a youthful verve. “They really wanted a plush comfy sofa to watch movies, play video games and chill out,” says designer Nicci Harrison (shown, opposite, on sofa, with designer Meagan Prot). “We wanted to keep it super neutral but throw in pops of wine and pink and yellow to reflect the clients’ vitality.” Twin pleated pendants hung at staggered heights are fun garnishes.

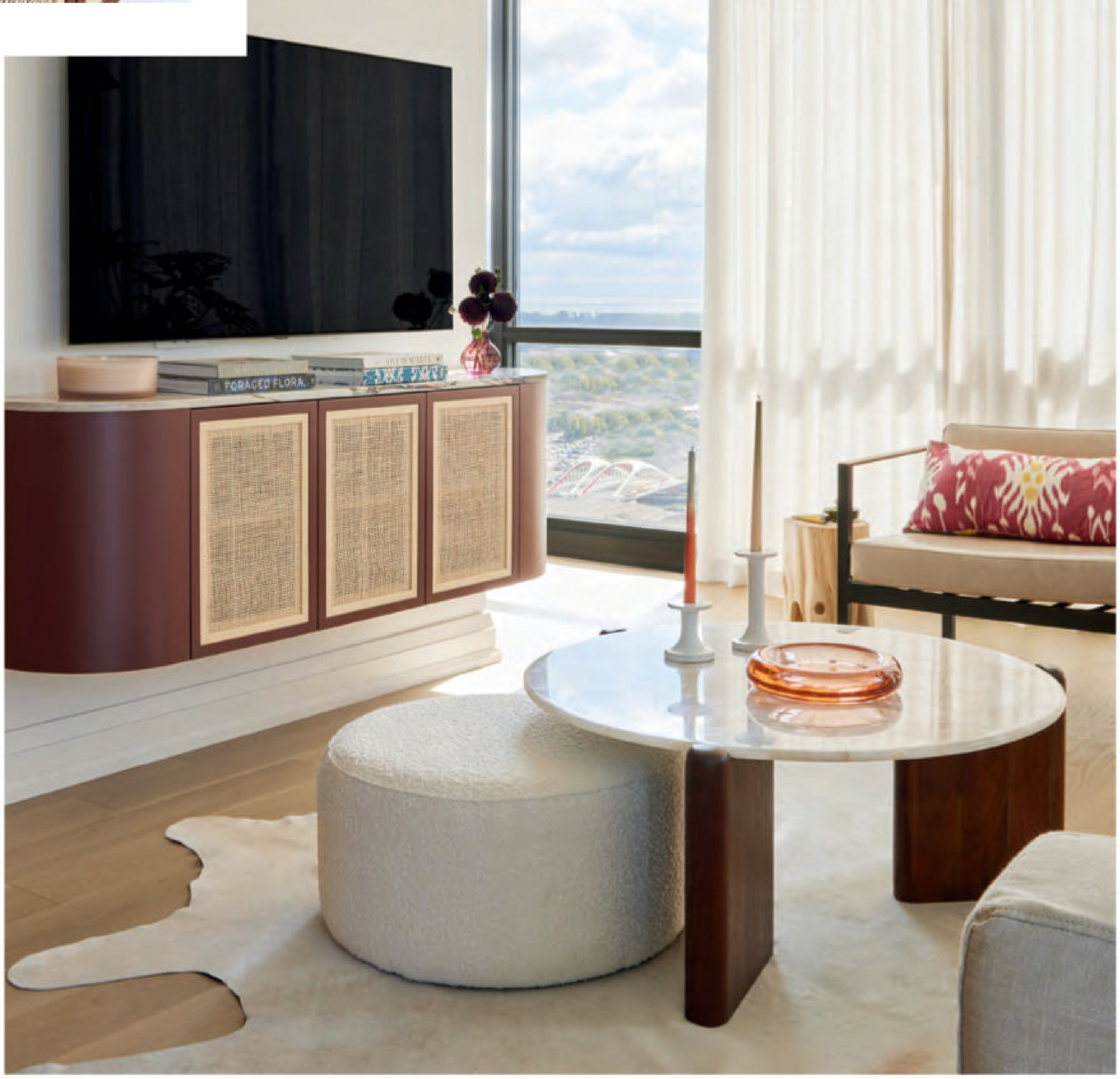
DESIGN, Nicci Harrison, Meagan Prot, Studio Cajole. **CONSTRUCTION,** QGC Construction Company. **SOFA,** Sundays. **CHAIR,** Elte Mkt. Checkered **PILLOW,** ombré **CANDLES,** Urban Outfitters. Cream **PILLOWS,** Article. **PENDANTS,** Huey Light Shop. **GLASS DISH,** CB2. **CANDLEHOLDERS,** HomeSense. **SIDE TABLE,** West Elm. **PLANT,** Sienna Flora Plant Shop. **DRAPERY,** Genny Miller Designs.

FORAGED FLORA

TERRIFIC TOPPER

An offcut slab of Calacatta Viola marble elegantly tops the floating console. The stone's perky mauve veining picks up on the plum accents throughout the living area, and the console itself doubles as a media unit, providing critical storage space. "The egg is a random vintage find that adds eclectic character," says Nicci. "I'm a huge thrifter. I'm always on the hunt for interesting items."

MEDIA UNIT, Greystone Custom Cabinets. **MEDIA UNIT PAINT,** Nicolson Red CW-270, Benjamin Moore. **OTTOMAN,** LD Shoppe. **COFFEE TABLE,** CB2.



REST EASY

The bespoke slatted white oak wall – uplit behind the bed – is especially romantic at night when it glows, and it also adds textural interest. "We matched the night stands from Article to the wall, so everything felt custom," says Nicci. The room, which closes off with a sliding glass door, is swathed in creamy-coloured floor-to-ceiling blackout drapes that wrap the room for a cocooning sleep at night and to keep it cool during the day. "The room gets blasted with sun," says Nicci.

BED, West Elm. **BEDDING,** Urban Outfitters. Pink **PILLOWS,** HomeSense. **LUMBAR PILLOW, RUG,** Etsy. **LIGHT,** Style Garage.

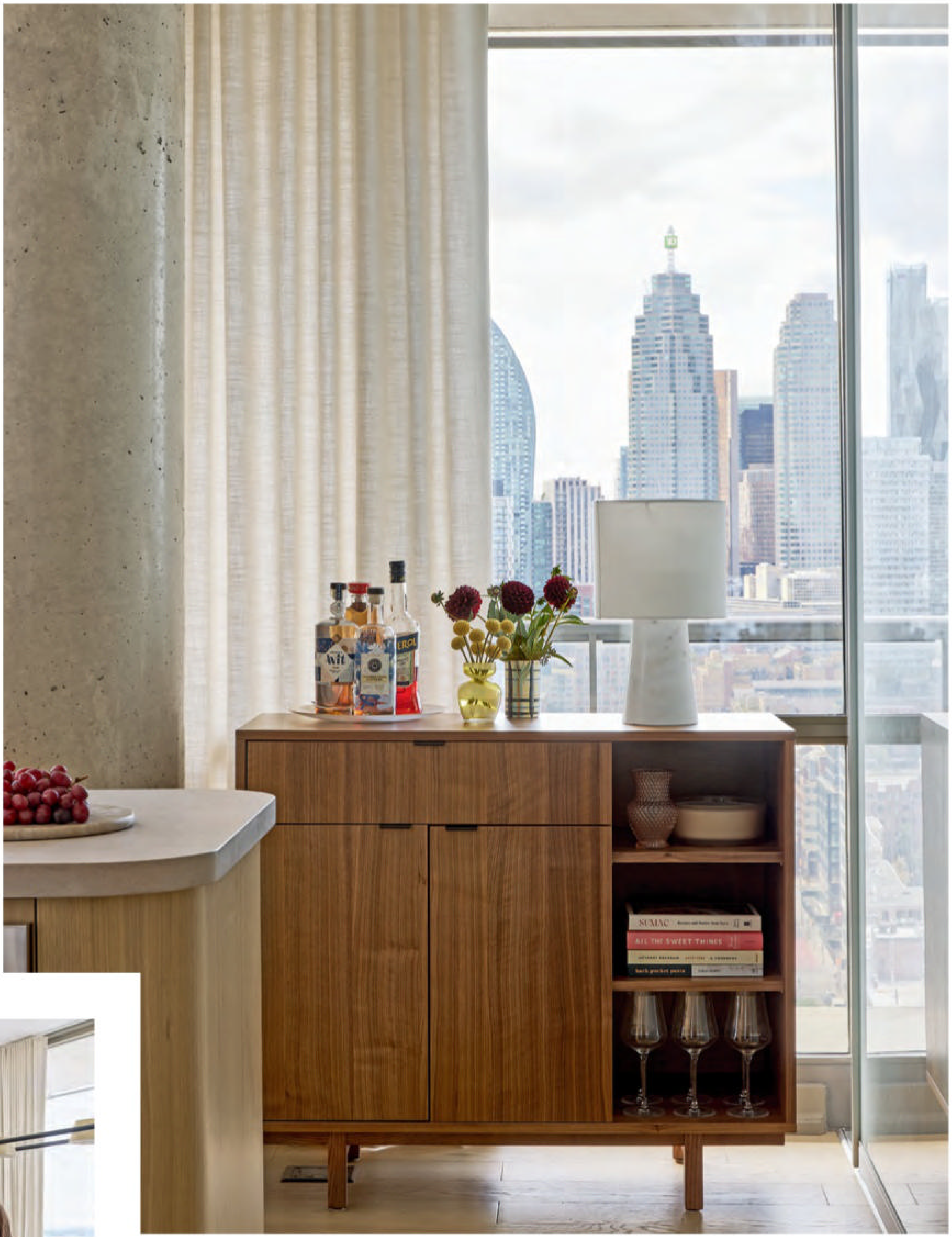
IN THE FLOW

The media unit gets its good looks from the full-bodied wine tone and on-trend caned doors. In a space-saving move, the designers mounted it, so it's tucked away, nice and tidy. "Also, having curved edges, you feel like you can slip and slide and flow around in the space, versus a lot of hard angles you see in many condos," notes Nicci, regarding both the media unit and the coffee table.

SLEEK SCANDI

Flat-front white oak cabinetry, a two-tone scheme and slender brass pulls are a captivating blend in the kitchen. Floating shelves offer an artful display opportunity. "I wanted an organic feel for the backsplash tile," says Nicci (shown, standing, with designer Meagan Prot, seated). "These tiles come in a million colours. They're so beautiful with their sheen, and they're affordable, too. It's a different look from builder-grade finishes." A microwave drawer in the island keeps the look uncluttered.

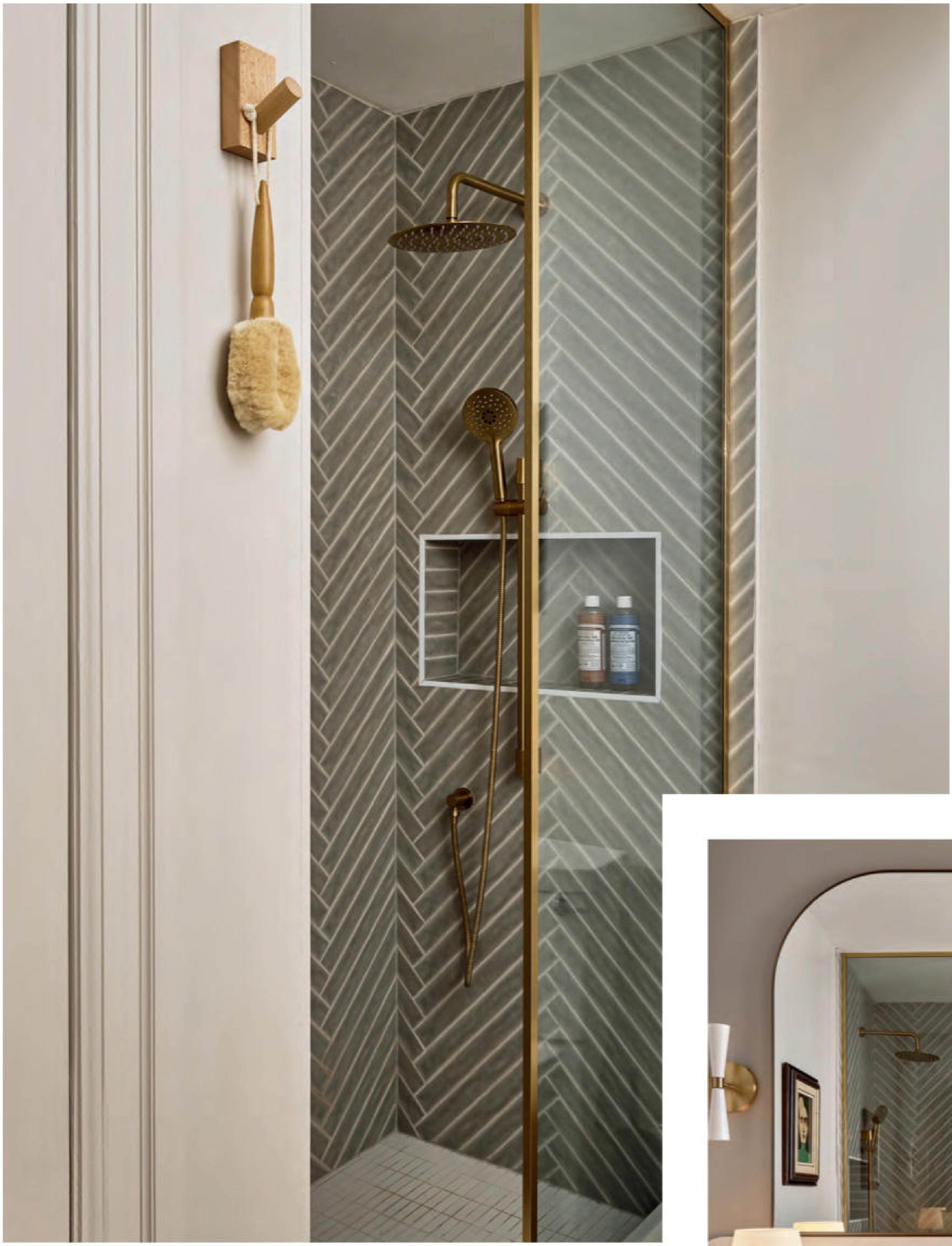
CABINETRY, Greystone Custom Cabinets. **BACKSPLASH TILE,** Stone Tile. **COUNTERTOP,** Caesarstone. **PENDANT,** Casa di Luce. **STOOLS,** Elte Mkt. Light blue **BOWLS** (on shelf), Studio Fundamentals.



RAISING THE BAR

"I love using pieces of furniture for storage," says Nicci of her decision to tuck the bar cart along the window. "Millwork can be expensive, and this is a way to add storage and character inexpensively." A pretty vignette of flower-filled vases, neatly grouped spirits and a hunky lamp spark joy on its surface.

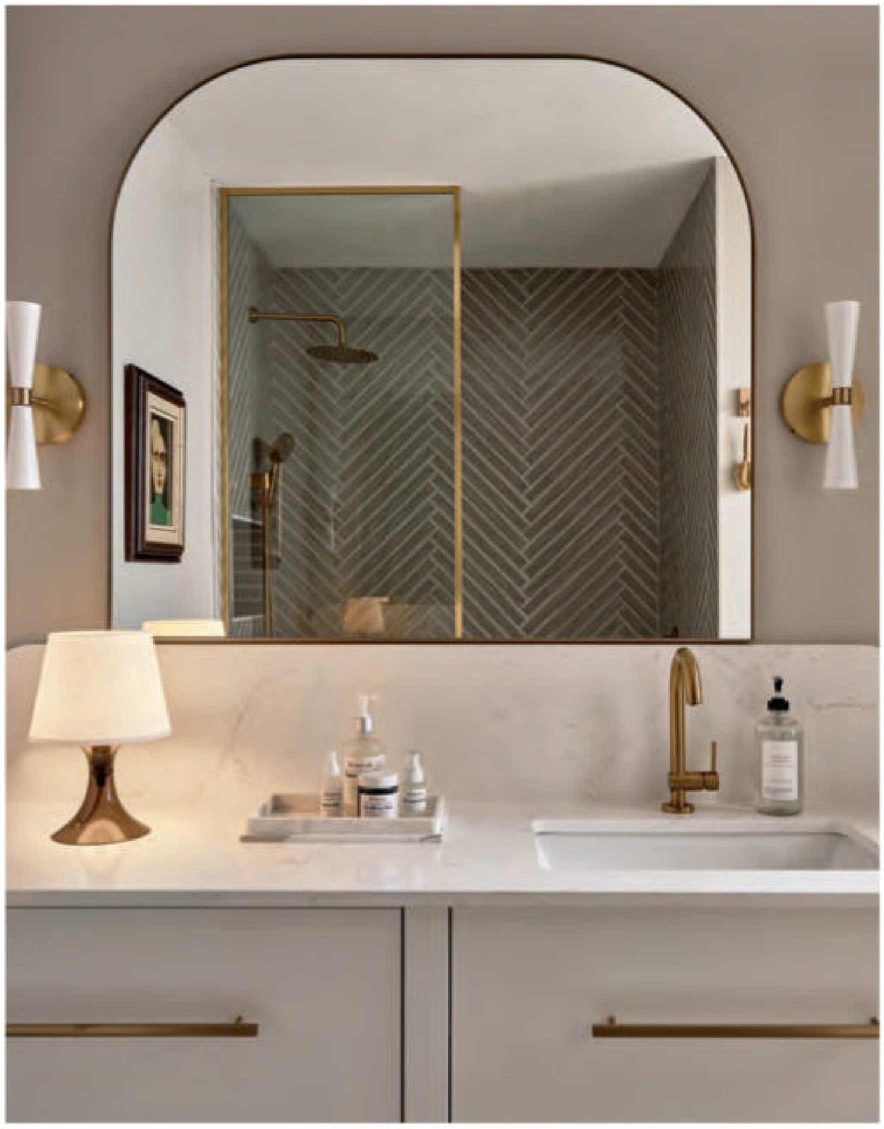
BAR CART, Style Garage. **LAMP,** West Elm.



DARKLY DRAMATIC

For the ensuite bathroom (opposite), Nicci convinced the homeowners that a rich teal tile in the shower was the best move. "It's moody and romantic; everything else in the condo is light and airy," she says. To optimize storage, the designer reconfigured the bathroom to fit a large vanity with drawers.

MIRROR, West Elm. **SCONCES,** Cedar & Moss. **FAUCET,** Wayfair. **SQUARE WALL TILE,** Stone Tile. **DARK TEAL TILE,** Ciot. Black **VASE,** HomeSense.



SHOWER POWER

"I'm obsessed with that tile. I love its muted green colour and unusual 2-by-20-inch size," says Nicci, referring to the main bathroom's shower tile (this page). "I wanted something special because this is the bathroom guests use." Fixtures and accents in warm brushed brass and gold add a luxe touch.

PLUMBING FIXTURES, Wayfair. **TILE,** Stone Tile. **MIRROR,** CB2. **SCONCES,** Etsy. **LAMP,** IKEA.

FAMILY STYLE

Designer and *Style at Home* columnist Arren Williams used confident colour and fuel-injected pattern to refresh a family's new home.

TEXT CHRISTY WRIGHT | **PHOTOGRAPHY** STACEY BRANDFORD | **STYLING** ME & MO

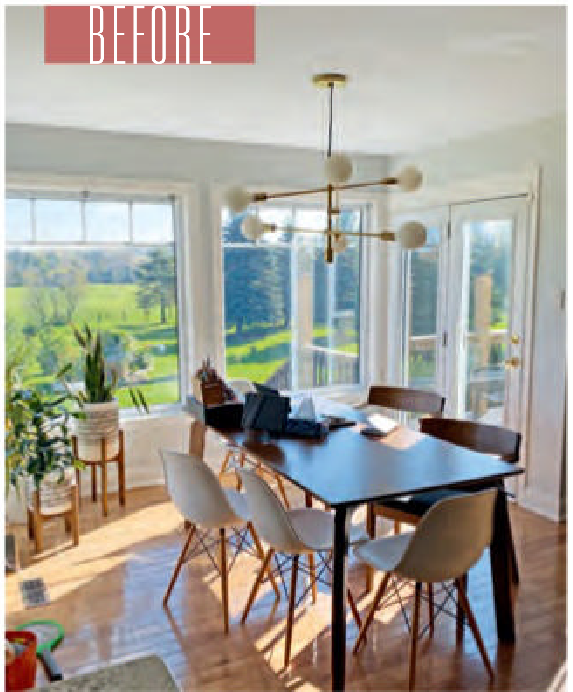
Elbow room – a serious lack of it – instigated a move that led to the revamp of this now-gorgeous abode. Georgina Terzis and her husband, Scott Thistleton, parents to Oliver, 9, and Penelope, 6, wanted more space than their Toronto-area home could offer, so they left the city behind for a 4,300-square-foot house near Uxbridge, Ont. It had the space they craved and a full-throttle leafy view, but the 30-year-old home felt somber and heavy. To lift it from ho-hum to "Hello!" the couple hired Arren Williams. "The house was terribly old-fashioned and not suitable for this stylish young family," says Arren. He channelled their love of open-concept looks, bold patterns and sun-washed colours to mastermind a renovation that gave the space a bright, contemporary countenance. "I worked hard to ensure the finishes are as durable as they are stylish," he says. "It feels polished, but still warm, and definitely family friendly."

Clear Picture

"The faux-mullion vinyl windows with the overwrought moulding just had to go," says designer Arren Williams. Now black frames and flat trim give the windows, including this large-scale picture window, presence. The original hemlock floors were sanded to impart a brighter look, and the vintage chairs, sourced online, were updated with upholstery.

Bright Ideas

Homeowners Georgina Terzis and Scott Thistleton (shown here) love to take family vacations in Palm Springs, Calif., and that played into Arren's vision. "I wanted to give them something bright and contemporary, kind of a mix between Californian and Scandinavian," he says. The fireplace boasted natural stone, but it felt heavy and dominant, and so Arren refreshed it with white paint.



DESIGN, Arren Williams. Wall and fireplace **PAINT,** Chantilly Lace OC-65, Benjamin Moore. Neolith Calacatta Luxe Ultrasoft **COUNTERTOPS** and **BACKSPLASH,** Ciot. Swell **DINING TABLE,** Johnstone Béton Architectural. **STOOL,** Hay. Lov **PENDANT,** Krema **SCONCE,** Luminaire Authentik. **WINDOWS,** Fieldstone Windows. **VASES** (on mantel), Hollace Cluny.

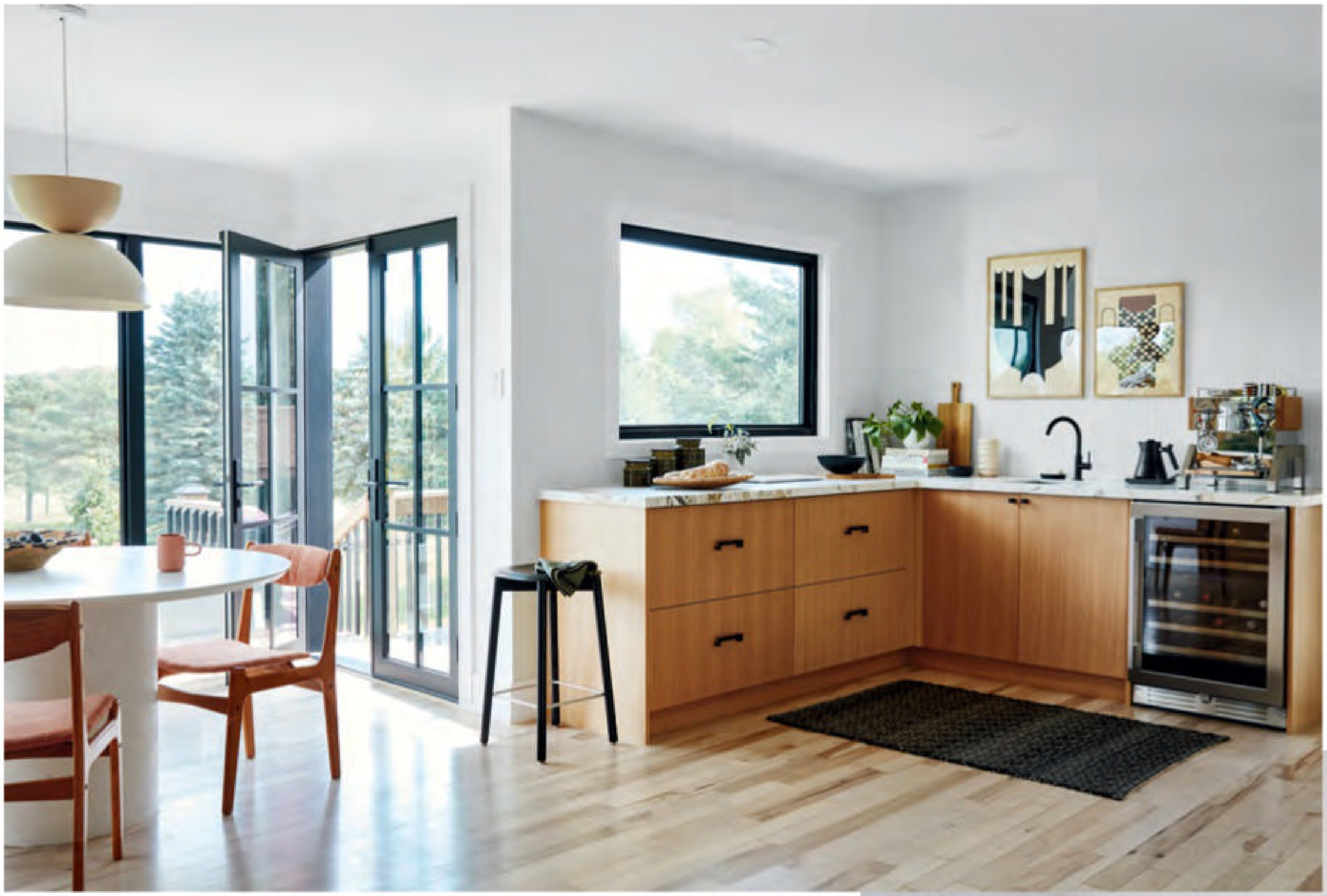
Oncoming Graphic

"We wanted a heavily veined stone that really pushed the envelope with visual strength and personality," says Arren. With practicality in mind, he sourced an engineered material that looks like the real thing but is a breeze to clean and maintain – perfect for a young family. "It's a magic material, and I loved its dramatic veining so much I extended it to wrap around the island and the walls." The Aga range, a nod to Scott's British roots, feels both vintage and modern.

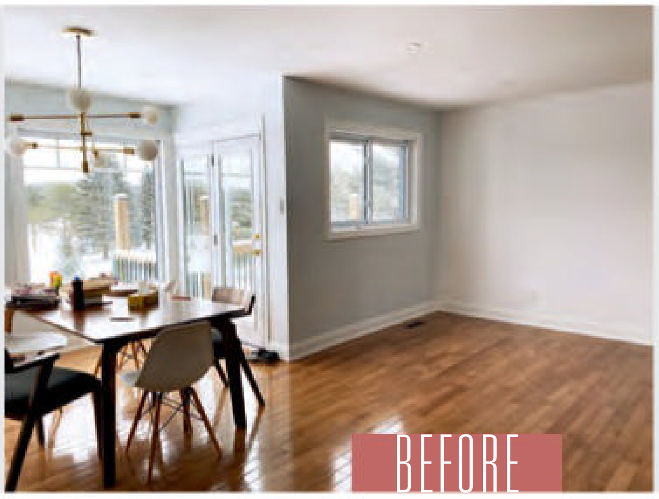
Up Above

Forgoing traditional upper cabinets keeps the blockbuster veining the star of the show, while island drawers and floor-to-ceiling cabinetry provide the storage uppers would have. Warm oak is a quiet foil to the pattern, and the range hood layers in even more aesthetic verve. "It's clad in matchstick tiles and was a bit of a gamble, but I added curves to soften the look," says Arren. "It's a large element, but it doesn't dominate." The sleek sconces and island pendant lights are subtle and modern.

RANGE HOOD TILES, Ciot. Aga **RANGE,** Bosch **DISHWASHER,** Fisher & Paykel **FRIDGE,** Goemans. Rohl Forze **SINK,** Riobel **FAUCET,** House of Rohl. Linea **HARDWARE,** Elte. Nomad **PENDANT LIGHTS,** Luminaire Authentik.



Coffee bar **FAUCET, SINK,** House of Rohl. **BACKSPLASH,** Ciot. Electra **ESPRESSO MACHINE,** Zuccarini. Avanti Elite **WINE FRIDGE,** Goemans. **KETTLE,** Crate and Barrel. Monsaraz **RUG,** Casa Cubista. Studio Paradissi **ART,** The Poster Club.



BEFORE

Coffee Time

"This end of the kitchen was an entire area that was unused, so I wanted to give it some purpose," says Arren. He added an L-shaped bank of cabinetry to maximize storage and create a coffee bar, complete with an Italian espresso maker (the owners are serious coffee aficionados). A black rug helps define the space and ties in with the window frames.

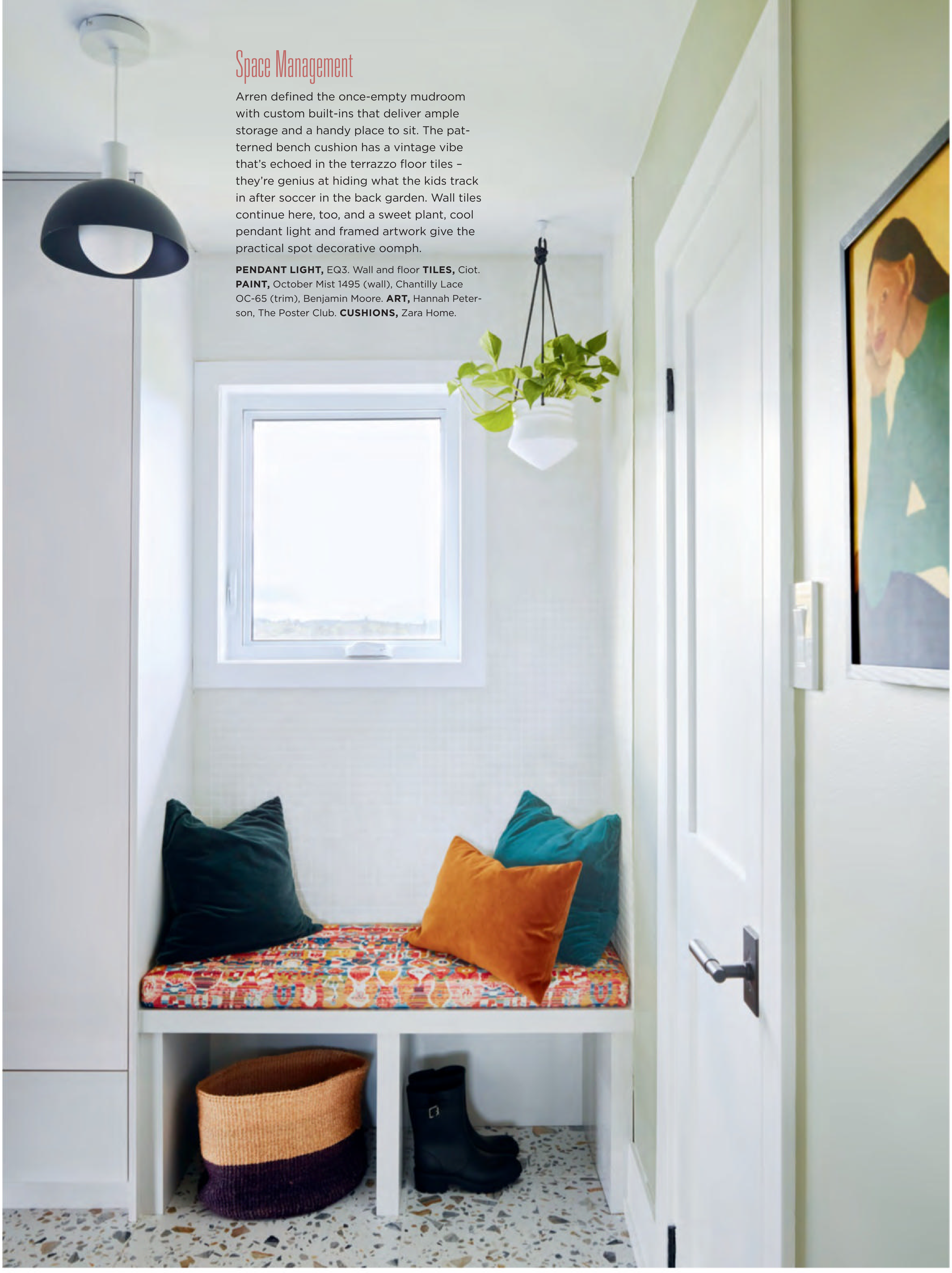
Tile File

The coffee bar's backsplash is both subtle and striking. "The tile is a scaled-up version of the matchstick ones I used on the range hood," says Arren. The surface offers interest, continuity and texture while being in step with the simple palette. The artwork is by one of Georgina's favourite artists. Arren says the strong graphics were an easy fit here.

Space Management

Arren defined the once-empty mudroom with custom built-ins that deliver ample storage and a handy place to sit. The patterned bench cushion has a vintage vibe that's echoed in the terrazzo floor tiles – they're genius at hiding what the kids track in after soccer in the back garden. Wall tiles continue here, too, and a sweet plant, cool pendant light and framed artwork give the practical spot decorative oomph.

PENDANT LIGHT, EQ3. Wall and floor **TILES,** Ciot. **PAINT,** October Mist 1495 (wall), Chantilly Lace OC-65 (trim), Benjamin Moore. **ART,** Hannah Peterson, The Poster Club. **CUSHIONS,** Zara Home.



Boldly Go

Arren's take on the odd angles in the kids' bathroom? "Ignore them!" he says. "I played with strong elements, such as terrazzo tiles, bold colours and colour blocking to detract from the angles and make the room come alive." The base of the old vanity was ditched in favour of one with a sleeker profile, but Arren repurposed its quartz countertop. Artwork helps soften the graphic elements of the space.

Golden Style

The powder room boasts some jewel-box moments worth copying. "Since this is a contained space, I took a chance and went for a hit of juicy colour and gold accents," says Arren. The ceiling light is vintage (he had it in storage awaiting the perfect place), and the carefree-colour sink is made in Canada from cast concrete. The sconce cleverly plays against the sink's curves and the two-tone mirror.

WALL TILES, VANITY COUNTER, Ciot. Parro **SINK,** Mudd Concrete. Riobel **FAUCET,** House of Rohl. Declan **WALL LIGHT,** Elte. **POSTER,** Posterist.

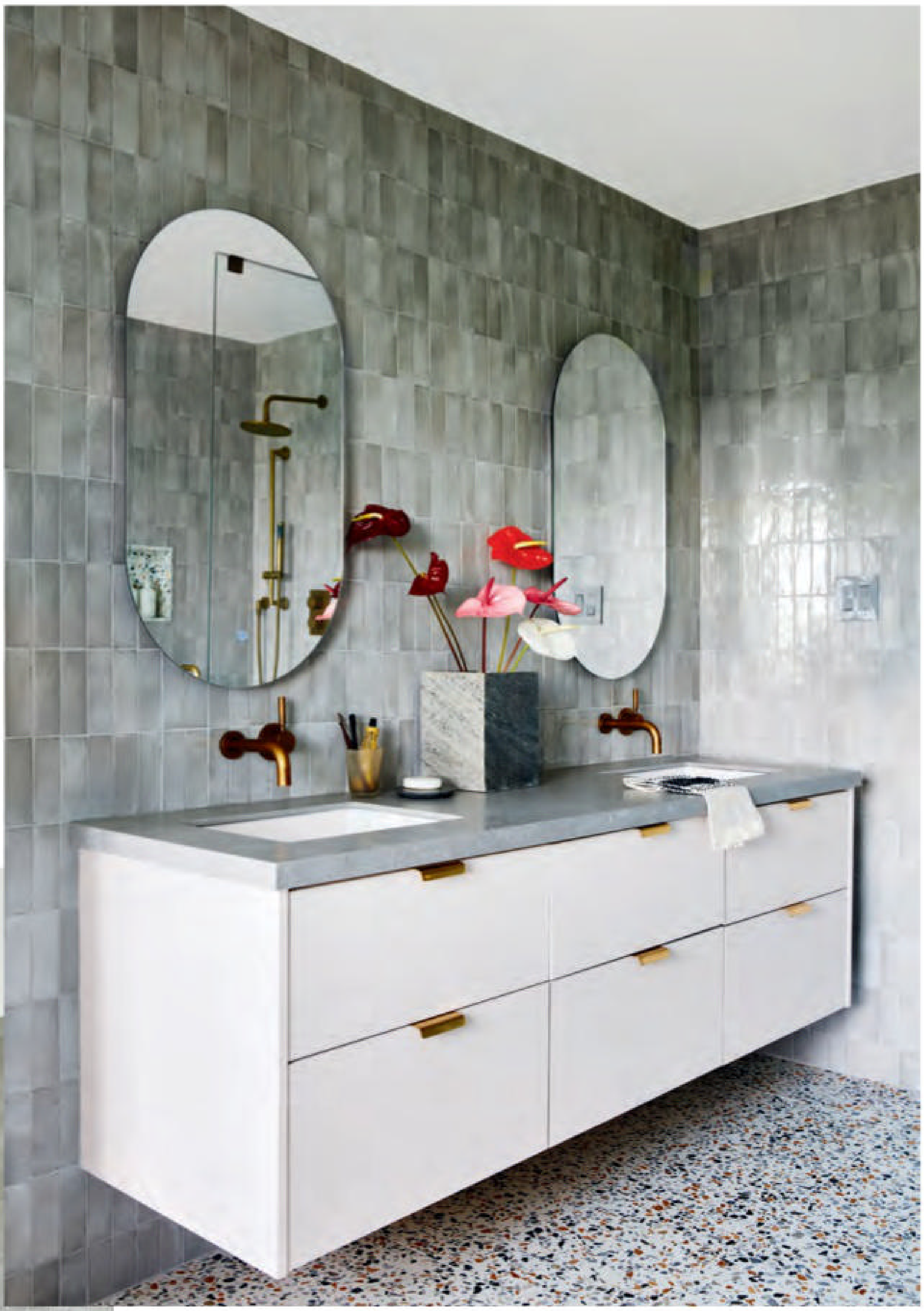
Wall and floor **TILES,** Ciot. **PAINT,** Tofino Sunset CC-156 (wall), Avon Green (vanity), Benjamin Moore. Hub **MIRROR,** Umbra. **FAUCET, SHOWERHEAD,** Aquabrass. **ART,** Old Faithful Shop. **STOOL,** EQ3. **CEILING LIGHT,** CB2.

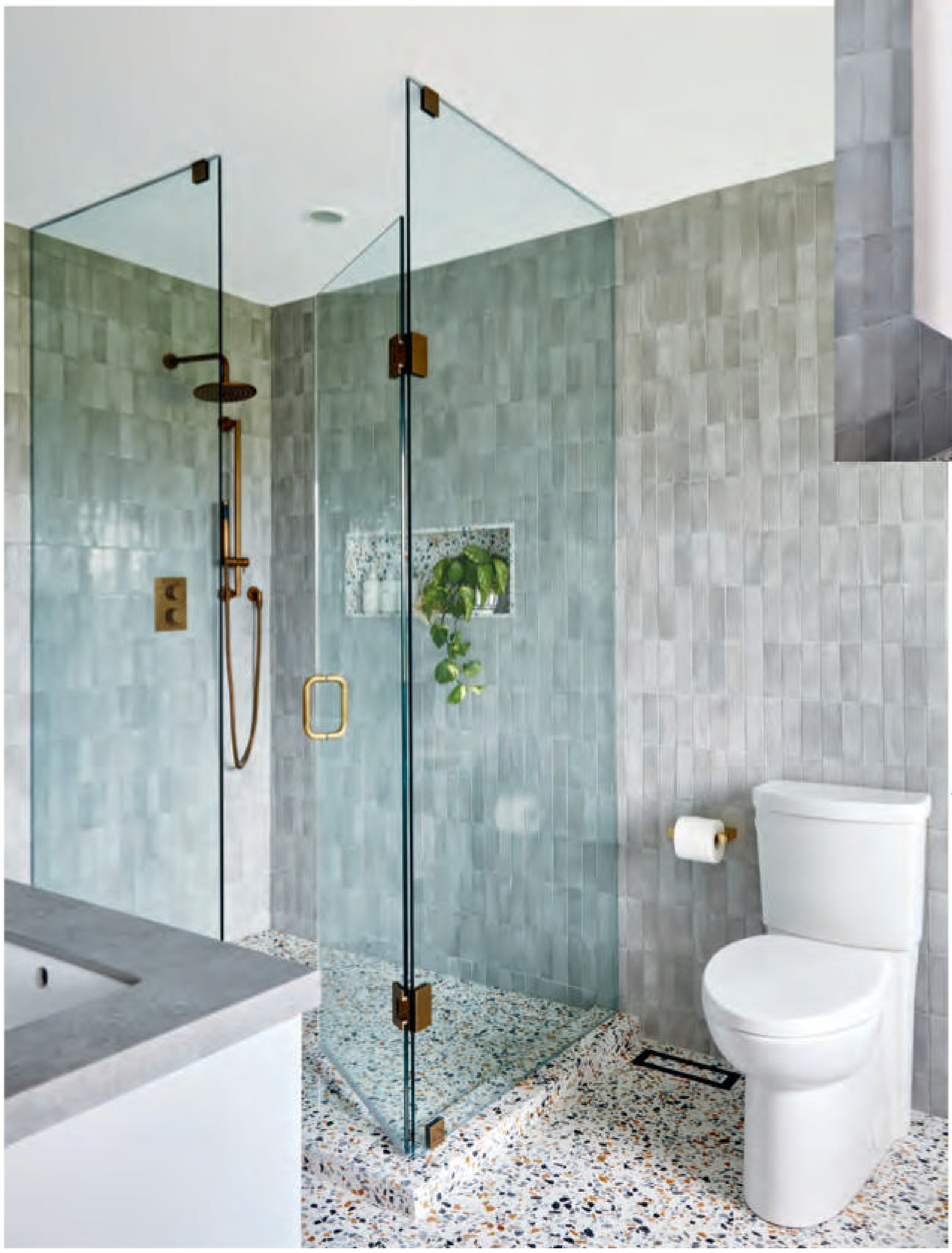
Grey Matter

“I decided to give the primary bathroom some drama with floor-to-ceiling wall tiles that look handmade,” says Arren. “The palette is wrought in tones of grey, and the ebb and flow of the colour helps make the space feel special.” Terrazzo floor tiles add a bit of irreverence and whimsy. The shower is generously scaled to be roomy without taking up too much floor space. Sconces were nixed in favour of LED-lit mirrors.

Vanity Fair

Arren designed the vanity to incorporate two sinks and lots of storage. “Its floating silhouette feels contemporary and makes the space seem bigger than it is,” he says. The sculptural tub is original to the home. “Scott lobbied for it to stay – he’s definitely a Brit who likes his baths.” A new tub filler in warm brass gives it a reboot, and a colourful stool lends bohemian intrigue. Says Arren, “This hand-painted piece plays into the framed artwork found throughout the home.”





WALL TILES, COUNTERTOP, FLOORING, Ciot. Kato LED **MIRRORS,** Renwil. **SINK FAUCETS, TUB FILLER, SHOWER FIXTURES,** Gingers. DeerValley **SINKS,** Wayfair. Brass **PULLS, TOILET ROLL HOLDER,** Rejuvenation. Reinaldo Sanguino **STOOL,** Hollace Cluny. Hanging **TOWELS,** LinenMe.

FOR SOURCES, SEE OUR WORKBOOK

BEFORE

Power Plants

The plant-based recipes in Jeanine Donofrio's new book, *Love & Lemons: Simple Feel Good Food*, will supercharge you (and your table) with colourful, delish, nourishing meals. Bonus boost: easy and make-ahead options abound!

SESAME HEIRLOOM TOMATO SALAD

RECIPES JEANINE DONOFRIO | **PHOTOGRAPHY** EVA KOLENKO

EGGPLANT SHEET PAN SHAWARMA

EGGPLANT SHEET PAN SHAWARMA

SERVES **4**

Shawarma Spice

1 tbsp ground cumin
1 tbsp smoked paprika
1½ tsp cinnamon
1½ tsp ground cardamom
1½ tsp ground turmeric

Vegetables

1 medium eggplant, sliced into ¼-inch-thick half moons
1 sweet potato, sliced into ¼-inch-thick half moons
Extra-virgin olive oil, for drizzling
1 tbsp Shawarma Spice
Sea salt and freshly ground black pepper

Serving

4 pitas, warmed
Tahini yogurt
2 Persian cucumbers, thinly sliced
Fresh mint, parsley or cilantro sprigs
½ cup pickled onions (optional)
Aleppo pepper, for sprinkling (optional)
Lemon wedges

Preheat the oven to 450°F and line 2 large baking sheets with parchment paper.

Make the Shawarma Spice: In a small bowl, whisk together the cumin, smoked paprika, cinnamon, cardamom and turmeric. Set aside 1 tablespoon and store the remaining spice for another use.

Place the eggplant on 1 of the baking sheets and the sweet potatoes on the other. Generously drizzle the eggplant with olive oil, and lightly drizzle the sweet potatoes. Sprinkle 2 teaspoons of the Shawarma Spice over the eggplant and the remaining 1 teaspoon over the sweet potatoes. Season all the vegetables with salt and pepper. Toss to coat, spread evenly on the baking sheets, and roast until the sweet potatoes are golden brown and the eggplant is tender, 25 to 30 minutes, rotating the pans halfway through.

Assemble wraps in the pita with the tahini yogurt, roasted vegetables, cucumbers, mint, pickled onions, and sprinkles of Aleppo pepper, if using. Serve with lemon wedges on the side.

SESAME HEIRLOOM TOMATO SALAD

SERVES **4**

2 tbsp pepitas
2 tbsp raw, hulled sunflower seeds
2 tbsp sesame seeds
1 tsp tamari
2 lb colourful heirloom tomatoes, sliced
1 avocado, thinly sliced
2 scallions, thinly sliced
2 tsp fresh lime juice
1 tsp toasted sesame oil
Flaky sea salt
Microgreens, for garnish

Preheat the oven to 350°F and line a baking sheet with parchment paper.

Place the pepitas, sunflower seeds and sesame seeds on the baking sheet, toss with the tamari, and spread evenly on the sheet.

Bake until golden brown and toasty, 7 to 10 minutes.

Remove from the oven and let cool for 5 minutes to allow the seeds to crisp up.

Arrange the tomatoes on a large platter in a single layer, overlapping only slightly.

Top with the avocado slices and scallions and drizzle with the lime juice and sesame oil. Sprinkle with flaky sea salt, the seed topping, and microgreens, and serve.

EXCERPTED FROM *LOVE AND LEMONS: SIMPLE FEEL GOOD FOOD* BY JEANINE DONOFRIO. COPYRIGHT © 2023 JEANINE DONOFRIO. PHOTOGRAPHY © 2023 BY EVA KOLENKO.
PUBLISHED BY PENGUIN, AN IMPRINT OF PENGUIN CANADA, A DIVISION OF PENGUIN RANDOM HOUSE CANADA LIMITED. REPRODUCED BY ARRANGEMENT WITH THE PUBLISHER. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.

WHITE BEAN
SWISS CHARD
BURGER

> *"I wrote this cookbook with two types of cooks in mind. Half the recipes are 'at the ready,' which are easy to make with on-hand ingredients. The other half are 'in advance' recipes, which you can plan ahead."*
> *– Jeanine Donofrio*

WHITE BEAN SWISS CHARD BURGERS

SERVES **6**

1	bunch Swiss chard, stems removed and set aside
3	cups cooked butter beans, drained and rinsed
½	medium yellow onion, grated on the large holes of a box grater (⅓ cup)
3	garlic cloves, grated
3	tbsp mayonnaise
1	tbsp Dijon mustard
1	tbsp chopped fresh dill, or 1 tsp dried
1	tsp lemon zest
1	tsp sea salt
1	tsp freshly ground black pepper
¼	tsp cayenne pepper
1	large egg
1	cup panko bread crumbs
	Avocado oil, for the pan
6	hamburger buns
	Desired fixings: sunflower sprouts, lettuce, avocado, sliced cucumbers, etc.

Pickled Chard Stems

	Stems from 1 bunch Swiss chard, chopped (1¼ cups)
½	cup diced red onion
2	tbsp fresh lemon juice
½	tsp sea salt

Lemon Dill Yogurt

½	cup whole-milk Greek yogurt
1	tsp fresh lemon juice
1	tsp chopped fresh dill, or ¼ tsp dried
¼	tsp sea salt

Roughly chop the chard leaves, place in a steamer basket, and set over a pot filled with 1 inch of water. Bring the water to a simmer, cover, and steam until the leaves are wilted, about 1 minute. When cool to the touch, squeeze the excess water out of the leaves and chop finely.

In a large bowl, combine the chard with the beans, onion, garlic, mayonnaise, mustard, dill, lemon zest, salt, pepper and cayenne. Use a potato masher to mash until the mixture holds together but still has some visible bean chunks. Add the egg and fold until combined. Then fold in the panko. The mixture should be cohesive and a little wet.

Form the mixture into 6 patties. Place the patties on a baking sheet, cover loosely with foil or plastic wrap, and chill overnight.

Make the Pickled Chard Stems: In a lidded jar, combine the chard stems, onion, lemon juice and salt. Shake to combine and chill until ready to use.

Make the Lemon Dill Yogurt: In a small bowl, combine the yogurt, lemon juice, dill and salt. Chill until ready to use.

Preheat the oven to 400°F and line a baking sheet with parchment paper.

Heat a cast-iron skillet over medium heat. Coat the bottom with oil and cook the burgers until browned, 3 to 4 minutes per side, working in batches and reducing the heat to low as needed. Transfer the burgers to the prepared baking sheet and bake for 15 minutes. If desired, warm the buns in the oven during the last few minutes of cooking time.

Assemble the burgers on buns with yogurt sauce, pickled chard stems and desired fixings.

STRAWBERRY POLENTA CAKE

SERVES **8**

1	cup all-purpose flour, spooned and levelled
½	cup medium-grind cornmeal, spooned and levelled
2	tsp baking powder
¾	tsp sea salt
½	cup cane sugar
1	tbsp lemon zest
¾	cup whole-milk Greek yogurt
½	cup extra-virgin olive oil + more for the pan
2	large eggs
1	tsp vanilla extract
½	tsp almond extract
1½	cups small strawberries, halved
¼	cup sliced almonds

Preheat the oven to 350°F.

Lightly oil a 9-inch round cake pan and line the bottom of the pan with parchment paper.

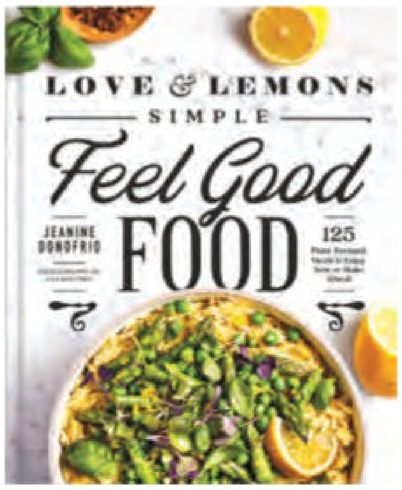
In a medium bowl, whisk together the flour, cornmeal, baking powder and salt.

In a large bowl, whisk together the sugar and lemon zest. Add the yogurt, olive oil, eggs, vanilla and almond extract; whisk to combine.

Add the dry ingredients to the wet ingredients; stir until just combined. Don't overmix.

Pour the batter into the prepared pan and top with the strawberries and almonds. Bake until a toothpick inserted in the centre comes out clean, 35 to 40 minutes. Let cool completely before slicing and serving.

STRAWBERRY POLENTA CAKE



Find more recipes in *Love & Lemons: Simple Feel Good Food* by Jeanine Donofrio, $40, Penguin Canada.

SOURCE GUIDE

Where to find the products featured on our pages.

A

Aaron Smith
aaronsmithart.com

Absolutely Inc.
absolutelyinc.com

Ace of Space Interiors
aceofspaceinteriors.com

Advice from a Caterpillar
advicefromacaterpillar.ca

Álafoss
alafoss.is

Ames Tile
amestile.com

Anna Church
annachurchart.com

Annie Selke
annieselke.com

Anthropologie
anthropologie.com

Antiquités Curiosités
@curiositemidcenturymtl

Aquabrass
aquabrass.com

Arren Williams
arrenwilliams.com

Arteriors
arteriorshome.com

Article
article.com

B

Babbingtons Mould & Trim
babbingtons.com

Benjamin Moore
benjaminmoore.ca

Boo Boo and Lefty Fine Living
boobooandlefty.com

Bordignon Stone
bordignonstone.com

Bosch
bosch.ca

Bradbury & Bradbury
bradbury.com

Bungalow
bungalow.to

C

Caesarstone
caesarstone.ca

Casa Cubista
casacubista.com

Casa di Luce
casadiluce.ca

Cava Surfaces
cavasurfaces.ca

CB2
cb2.ca

Cedar & Moss
cedarandmoss.com

Ceratec
ceratec.com

Chad Wys
chadwys.com

Christian Roy Atelier
christianroy-atelier.com

Christopher Rouleau
christopherrouleau.com

Ciot
ciot.com

Crate and Barrel
crateandbarrel.ca

Cuisines Multi-design
cuisinesmultidesign.com

D

Dacor
dacor.com

Dan Hobday Art
etsy.com/ca/shop/danhobdayart

Design Within Reach
dwr.com

Designer Wallcoverings
designerwallcoverings.com

DoloresRetro
etsy.com/ca/shop/doloresretro

Drop It Modern
dropitmodern.ca

Dupont Plumbing
dupontplumbing.com

E

eBay
ebay.ca

Elena Del Bucchia Design
edbdesign.ca

Elte
elte.com

Elte Mkt
eltemkt.com

EQ3
eq3.com

Etsy
etsy.ca

Euro Tile and Stone
eurotilestone.com

F

Fieldstone Windows
fieldstonewindows.com

Fisher & Paykel
fisherpaykel.com

Founddesign
founddesign.ca

Fulgar
fulgar.com

G

Genny Miller Designs
gennymillerdesign.com

Gingers
gingers.com

Global Shades
globalshades.ca

Goemans
goemans.com

GR Shop by Gabriel Ross
grshop.com

Green Wall Vintage
greenwallvintage.ca

Greystone Custom Cabinets
greystonecabinets.com

H

H&M Home
hm.com

Hay
hay.com

Hollace Cluny
hollacecluny.ca

Home Depot
homedepot.ca

Homekin
homekin.com

HomeSense
homesense.ca

House of Rohl
houseofrohl.ca

Huey Light Shop
hueylightshop.com

I

Ian Stone
@ianstoneart

IKEA
ikea.ca

J

Johnstone Béton Architectural
betonjohnstone.com

Joliette
tresjoliette.com

K

Karice Lighting
karicelighting.com

Kathryn MacNaughton
kathrynmacnaughton.com

Kerr + Field Interiors
kerrandfield.ca

Kerry Dalton Interior Design
kdid.ca

Kohler
kohler.ca

L

LD Shoppe
ldshoppe.com

Le Belle Arti
lebellearti.com

Lepage
lepagemillwork.com

Linen House
linenhouse.com

LinenMe
linenme.ca

Liz Slome
lizslome.com

Lucie Kaas
luciekaas.com

Luminaire Authentik
luminaireauthentik.com

M

Madeleine Design Group
madeleinedesigngroup.com

Marble Trend
marbletrend.com

Merlaine
merlaine.com

Metrie
metrie.com

Mettro Source
mettro.ca

Mike Joyce
swissted.com

Milmonde
milmonde.com

Moen
moen.ca

Mondeau
mondeau.ca

Montréal Moderne
montrealmoderne.com

Mudd Concrete
muddconcrete.com

Myla Moon
mylamoon.com

N

Native Trails
nativetrailshome.com

New Generation Woodworking
ngwoodworking.com

NewWall
newwall.com

Next Generation Woodwork
647-519-6696

Nickels Cabinets
nickelscabinets.com

Nina Fant
ninafanthomes.com

Nordic Nest
nordicnest.com

Northmount Industries
northmountindustries.com

O

Old Faithful Shop
oldfaithfulshop.com

Olympia Tile
olympiatile.com

One Plus Kitchens
onepluskitchens.com

Ove
ovedecors.com

P

Pacific Stone
pacificstone.ca

Pink Construction Management
pinkcm.ca

Porcelanosa
porcelanosa.com

Posterist
posterist.co.uk

Pottery Barn
potterybarn.ca

Proggetti
proggetti.com

PurParket
purparket.com

Q

QGC Construction Company
@qgcconstructionco

R

Reena Sotropa In House Design Group
reenasotropa.ca

Rejuvenation
rejuvenation.com

Renwil
renwil.com

RH
rh.com

RH Teen
rhteen.rh.com

Riobel
riobel.design

Robert von Bangert
robertvonbangert.com

Robinson Lighting & Bath
robinsonco.ca

Rocheleau
rocheleau.ca

Rove Concepts
roveconcepts.com

S

Saatchi Art
saatchiart.com

Saltillo Imports
saltillo-tiles.com

Sandra Dionisi
sandradionisi.com

Sarah Rutledge
sarahrutledge.com

Schoolhouse
schoolhouse.com

Sienna Flora Plant Shop
siennaflora.ca

Simons
simons.ca

Sophie Asselin
sophie-a.com

Stone Tile
stone-tile.com

Stone Tile West
stone-tile.com

Structube
structube.com

Studio Cajole
studiocajole.com

Studio Fundamentals
studiofundamentals.com

Studio Paradissi
studioparadissi.com

Style Garage
stylegarage.com

Sundays
sundays-company.ca

Sunpan
sunpan.com

T

The Galley
thegalley.com

The Northern Habitat
thenorthernhabitat.com

The Poster Club
theposterclub.com

The Vanity Store
thevanitystore.ca

Tierra Sol
tierrasol.ca

Tom Dixon
tomdixon.net

Top Knobs
topknobs.com

Traditional Door
traditionaldoor.com

Tricore Design-Build
tricore.ca

U

Umbra
ca.umbra.com

Urban Barn
urbanbarn.com

Urban Blueprint Design + Build
urbanblueprintdevelopments.com

Urban Outfitters
urbanoutfitters.com

V

Vanessa Francis Design
vanessafrancis.com

Verve Moderns
@vervemoderns

Visual Comfort
visualcomfort.com

W

Wayfair
wayfair.ca

West Elm
westelm.ca

Working Artifacts
etsy.com/ca/shop/workingartifacts

Wow Design
wowdesigneu.com

Z

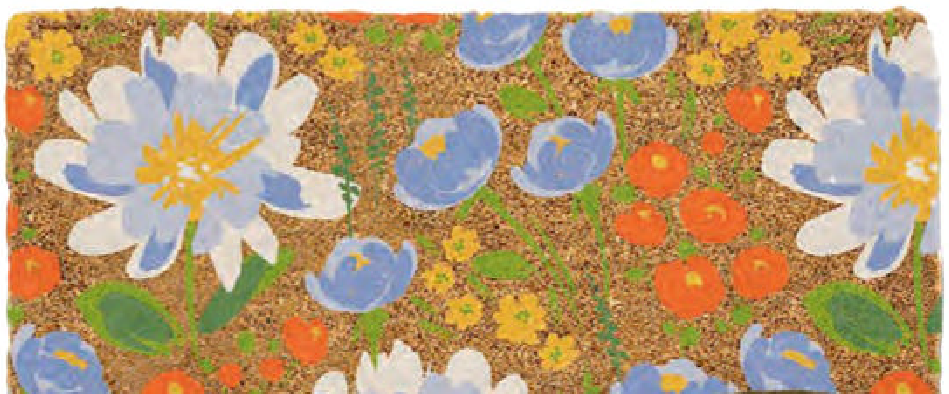
Zara Home
zarahome.com

Zebuu
zebuu.com

Zig Zag Collectibles
zigzagmidcentury.com

Zone
zonemaison.com

Zuccarini
zuccarini.ca



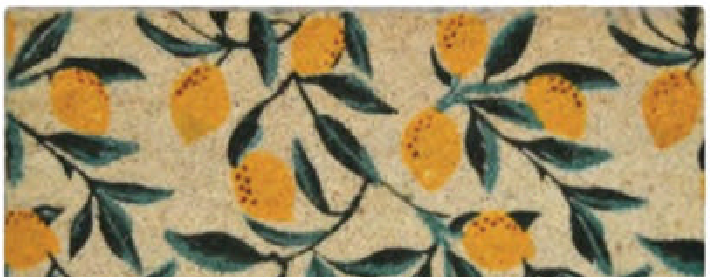
1

2

3

8 dashing DOORMATS

4



6

5

7

HOME
sweet
HOME

8

April showers bring...mud! Catch it at the door while extending a cheerful, stylish welcome, too. Just one problem: these mats are so pretty, you won't want to step on them!

1 Prairie Flowers, 18″ x 30″, $29, available in May, Zone, zonemaison.com. **2** Khaki jute, 20″ x 31″, $30, H&M Home, hm.com. **3** Iris Apfel Splendor in the Grass, 3′ x 2′, $179, Ruggable, ruggable.com. **4** Seldon, 20″ x 30″, $48, Anthropologie, anthropologie.com. **5** Juvale, 17″ x 30″, $31, Amazon, amazon.ca. **6** Coco Citrus, 16″ x 24″, $17, Rose Bonbon, rosebonbon.ca. **7** Cykelställ, 1′4″ x 2′4″, $13, IKEA, ikea.ca. **8** Home Sweet Home, 18″ x 30″, $25, Bouclair, bouclair.com.

Miele

Never too much, never too little,
always just brilliant.

Miele dishwashers with AutoDos –
the automatic dispensing system
for a perfect hygienic clean.
That’s quality ahead of its time.

“Miele” and the Miele logo are registered trademarks of Miele & Cie. KG. © 2023 Miele Limited.

Featured Collection: Stonecrete

BEYOND MATERIAL

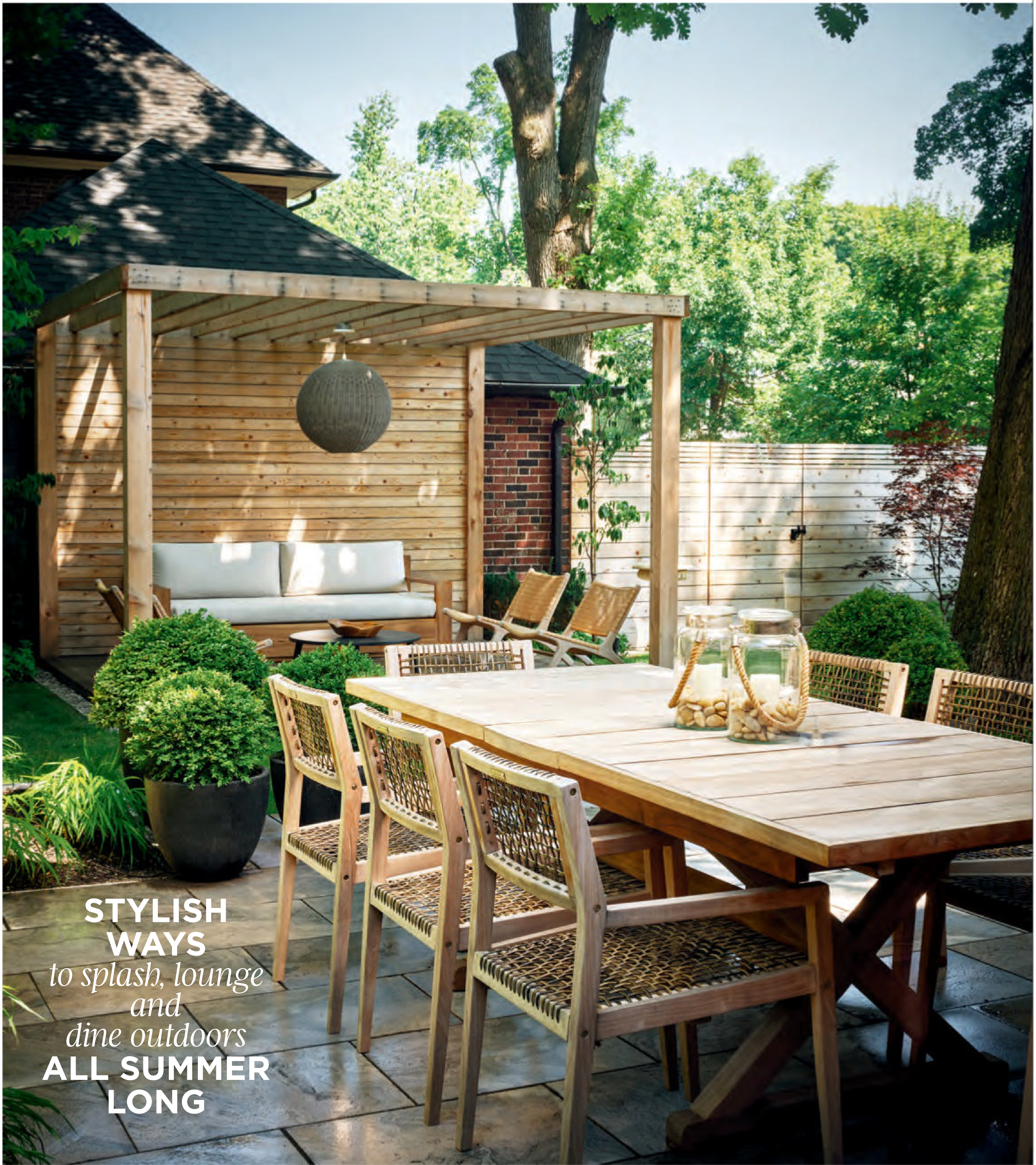
MARBLE | PORCELAIN | MOSAIC | CERAMIC | TERRAZZO | HARDWOOD

CIOT.COM

ciot

Outdoor Style

SUMMER'S HERE! *Design & decorating ideas for living life outside!*



STYLISH WAYS *to splash, lounge and dine outdoors* **ALL SUMMER LONG**

PHOTOGRAPHY, PATRICK BILLER

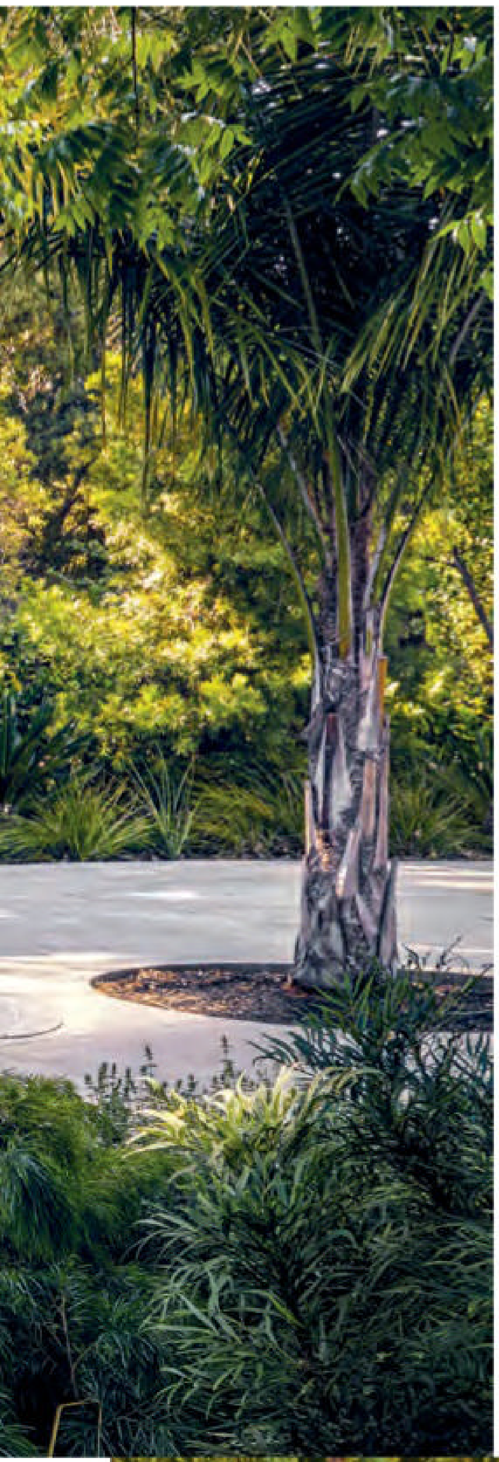
OUTDOOR *trends*

Bora **LOUNGE SET,** Jardin de Ville.

Read on to see the hottest looks under the sun in 2023. **PRODUCED BY** MARTHA UNIACKE BREEN

Good day, sunshine! Are you ready to throw open the windows and get out in the garden (or onto the balcony or into the backyard)? Of course you are! And this summer, you'll want to spend more time outside than ever, with decor, furnishings, accessories and materials that are just as sophisticated and beautiful as their interior counterparts. Whether you're planning an all-out backyard remodel or just looking to spruce things up, we've rounded up everything that's on trend for warm-weather outdoor living in 2023.

Dekko Alea 40 **FIREPIT,** Jardin de Ville.



OUTDOOR FURNITURE

COLOUR | Warm neutrals and hints of tonal greens in both furnishings and decor define summer 2023; the look is softer than black or white.

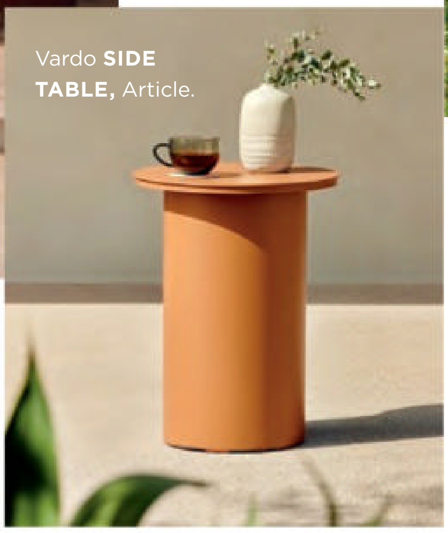
COMFORT | Furnishings emphasize relaxation and feature curved, embracing forms and a mellow feeling.

STYLE | The mood is Mediterranean: think of a relaxed lifestyle and outdoor dining; terracotta planters are key.

SEAMLESS TRANSITIONS | Outdoor furniture looks like indoor furniture.

> “I love the juxtaposition in form that is a common theme in outdoor furniture this year. From different shapes stacked to create a sculptural look to oversize pieces, there’s going to be plenty of style-forward furniture in 2023.”
>
> – PAULA COSSARINI, ARTICLE

Calova **SIDE TABLE,** Article.



Vardo **SIDE TABLE,** Article.

Classic S Series **PERGOLA**, SunLouvre Pergolas.

OUTDOOR FEATURES

PRIVACY | We want structures that provide privacy and a feeling of sanctuary and escape, including fences, pergolas, privacy panels and lattice.

BIOCLIMATIC PERGOLA | Have it both ways with this trend: pergolas have operable roof louvres that close to shelter from the elements and open to let them in.

OUTDOOR FIREPLACES | Fireplaces, more formal than a firepit, are increasingly popular, although firepits continue to grow in popularity in both suburban and urban backyards.

BUILDING MATERIAL | Aluminum in place of wood is popular; the material is practically maintenance-free, offering increased longevity.

OUTDOOR ROOMS | Designing your property in a way that creates rooms or destinations is a trend. Imagine: a winding path that leads to a firepit, or an outdoor office area with Wi-Fi, work surface and shade.

Les Ensembliers **DAYBED,** Bosquet.

> “In 2023, trends in landscaping design and outdoor structures are moving toward the versatility and durability offered by the so-called bioclimatic pergola, unlike a wooden shelter with a fixed roof.”
>
> – FRÉDÉRIC PELLETIER, SUNLOUVRE PERGOLAS

Moonstone, Vein White Nat, 12" x 24" **TILE,** Ciot.

> "An outdoor kitchen is an extension of your home, so the same attention is given to material choices outside for a harmonious look."
>
> – KRISTINA PANZERA, CIOT

KITCHEN SURFACES

PORCELAIN | Porcelain slab surfacing has taken off for outdoor use; the material is not affected by UV rays, is impervious to heat and is available in a wide array of colours, finishes and looks. Porcelain is also a popular material for outdoor kitchen backsplashes and column coverings.

MIXING MATERIALS | Combining materials (like quartz, porcelain and natural stone) on kitchen countertops and backsplashes adds style and a unique touch.

FAUX STONE | Stone look-alike materials are widely available in intriguing leathered or matte surfaces and earth-tone colours.

> "Sustainability is now, more than ever, at the core of the design process and finish selections. Designers are looking for products that are both eco-friendly and aesthetically pleasing, as to not compromise their creative ideas and the final spaces." – KARIM GUIRGUIS, COSENTINO

Dekton VK02 Avorio and VK04 Grafite **SURFACES**, Cosentino.

In-ground vinyl-lined **POOL,** Pioneer Family Pools.

WATER FEATURES

WELLNESS AT HOME | Interest has expanded beyond the recreational to the wellness benefits of owning a pool, hot tub or swim spa.

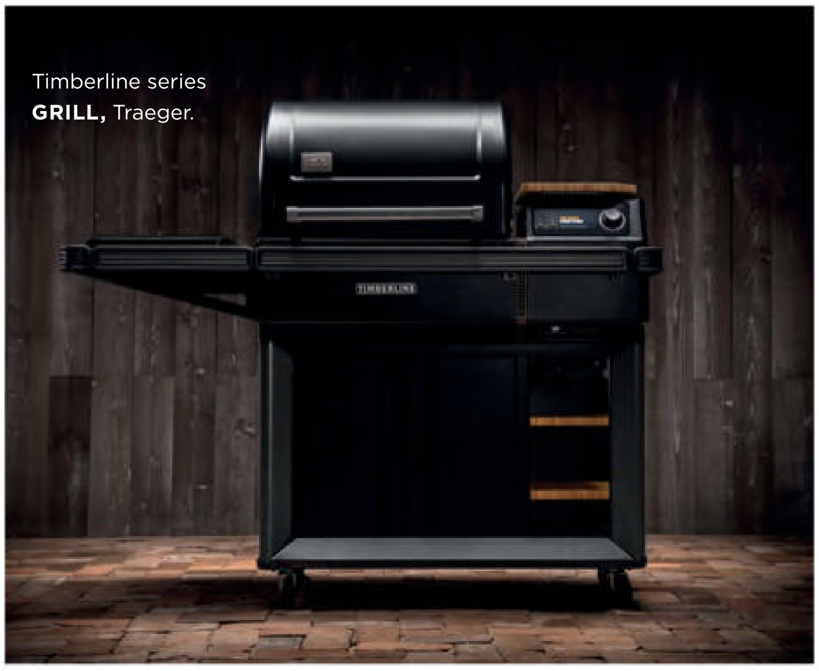
MAXIMIZING SPACE | Increasingly sophisticated designs maximize your outdoor space, especially in space-squeezed urban gardens where a smaller custom pool or swim spa will be combined with outdoor structures, such as pergolas, gazebos and enclosed cabanas that provide shade and storage.

EASY MAINTENANCE | Smaller, self-directed "robotic" pool cleaning units that don't require human assistance are popular, as well as saltwater systems, which are kinder to eyes and the environment than chlorine.

> "The word *staycation* may be overused, but our customers are truly looking to create their own personalized resort at home." – JAY PRITCHARD, PIONEER FAMILY POOLS

Smokefire Plus **GRILL,** Weber.

Endless Pools' Fitness System E2000 **SWIM SPA,** Pioneer Family Pools.


Timberline series **GRILL,** Traeger.

COOKING

ELECTRIC GRILLS | Outdoor electric grills are a great solution for small spaces like urban backyards and balconies where charcoal or gas grills are not allowed. Some models can produce barbecue flavour that's close to authentic charcoal grilling.

WOOD-FIRED COOKING | Wood-fired and wood pellet grills impart a delicious traditional flavour and are popular in municipalities allowing wood fires.

OUTDOOR KITCHENS | As sophisticated in style and features as their indoor counterparts, these spaces have running water, electrical and gas services, high-quality built-in appliances, and full-size prep and storage areas.

> "We know that many Canadians live in urban areas with smaller spaces where gas and charcoal grills aren't permitted. Electric grills provide the perfect solution."
>
> – PATRICIA LAREZ, WEBER-STEPHEN CANADA

> "Spending time with friends and family has never been more valued, and backyards have become the new epicentre for home entertaining."
> – LESLIE ADKINS, TREX COMPANY

Transcend Lineage **DECKING** in Biscayne, Trex.

LIGHTING, Outdoor Lighting Perspectives.

DECKS & HARDSCAPING

HUE NEWS | Light neutral colours in decking are popular, reflecting indoor trends and creating a calm, serene look. In second place are deck hues inspired by nature: taupe, mocha, light coastal brown, mountain grey.

SUSTAINABLE MATERIALS | Products like recycled composites, which are low maintenance, last for years and help to reduce the homeowners' carbon footprint, are gaining space and favour in the marketplace.

GLASS MOSAICS | This stunning decorative material is on the rise, looking particularly effective in gorgeous green and blue hues on pool surrounds.

> "The most surprising effect of nicely designed outdoor lighting is that it effectively makes your home larger. Your outdoor spaces suddenly become your favourite rooms after dusk." – PAMELA MOXON, OUTDOOR LIGHTING PERSPECTIVES

LIGHTING

MOOD LIGHTING | Candles, tiki torches and string lights are always on trend, helping to create atmosphere without breaking the bank.

DIRECTIONAL LIGHTING | We're rejecting overlighting our properties and homes in favour of subtle uplighting (trees and walkways) and downlighting (tucked into trees to invisibly illuminate pathways, focal points or the interior of the tree itself).

TECH ASSISTANCE | As with many other home systems, we're choosing remote-controlled lighting via a smartphone app.

SPECIAL EFFECTS | Switching white flood lamps with coloured bulbs lets us create different moods and effects.

LIGHTING, Outdoor Lighting Perspectives.

ACCENTS & DECOR

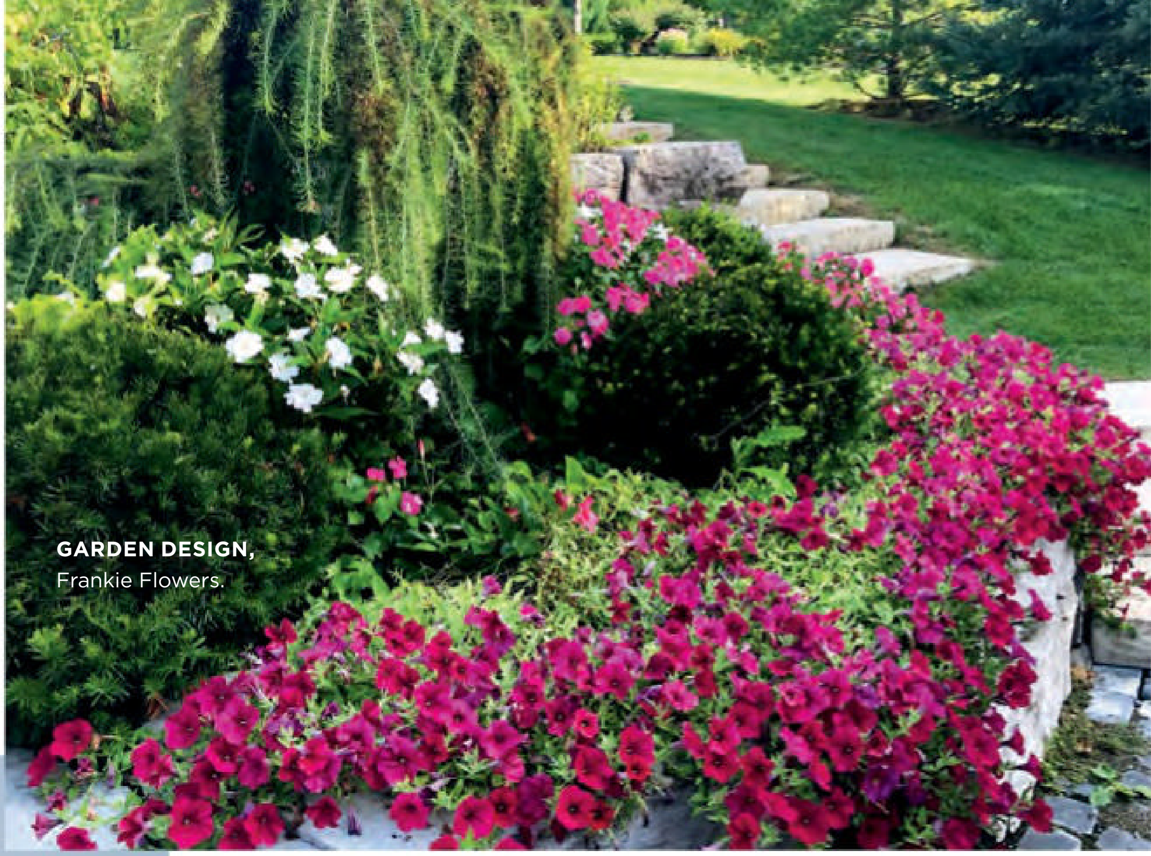
COASTAL | We're hitting the beach, choosing natural materials that reflect the elements, and citrus colours and lively motifs that are vibrant and playful.

NATURAL | Natural materials like rattan, wood and terracotta in clean, simplified silhouettes are hot commodities.

PATTERN | Geometric patterns are the shape of things this summer.

SURFACES | Durable surfaces that mimic statement marbles, with its heavy veins and patterns, are chic in outdoor kitchens.

COLOURED GLASS | From decorative bowls to vases to serving pieces, coloured melamine or glass brings personality to the table.



GARDEN DESIGN, Frankie Flowers.

CHAIR, Fritz Hansen Furniture.

> "With the price of produce these days, growing your own food has become a huge trend, and it will be bigger than ever this year — even in a condo balcony or city backyard." - FRANKIE FLOWERS, TV HOST AND GARDENING EXPERT

GARDENING

BACKYARD GARDENING | This trend continues to grow (pun intended) and has exploded in popularity, in part due to the pandemic.

BOLD COLOUR | We're seeing the return of bright, bold blossoms on garden annuals and perennials, as well as flowering houseplants.

VEG POWER | Practicality is just as important as beauty: vegetables grown in containers or the sunnier areas of the garden can help lower food bills.

LOW-IMPACT GARDENING | Less is more in the great outdoors: using less water and fewer chemicals; designing our gardens for less work and more enjoyment; and spending less money by sharing cuttings with friends, growing from seed and buying smaller-size plants.

CONTAINER GARDENING & HOUSEPLANTS | Lush, lovely containers and tropical plants are popular, most especially with Gen Zers, millennials and condo dwellers.

VERTICAL GARDENING | Plants that can be trained up a trellis, across a pergola or on strings are on the rise!

6 TIPS FOR A MORE SUSTAINABLE GARDEN

- FRANKIE FLOWERS, TV HOST AND GARDENING EXPERT

01 | Pair your garden's growing conditions (sun, rainfall, type of soil) with plant varieties that suit it. Not only will this reduce the need for additives and water, but you'll also save money, time and frustration.

02 | Convert your pool heater and backyard lighting to solar power.

03 | Compost – store-bought or homemade (it's easier than you think!) – is a garden's best friend. Unlike chemical fertilizers, you can't overfeed your garden with compost, and it improves virtually any soil.

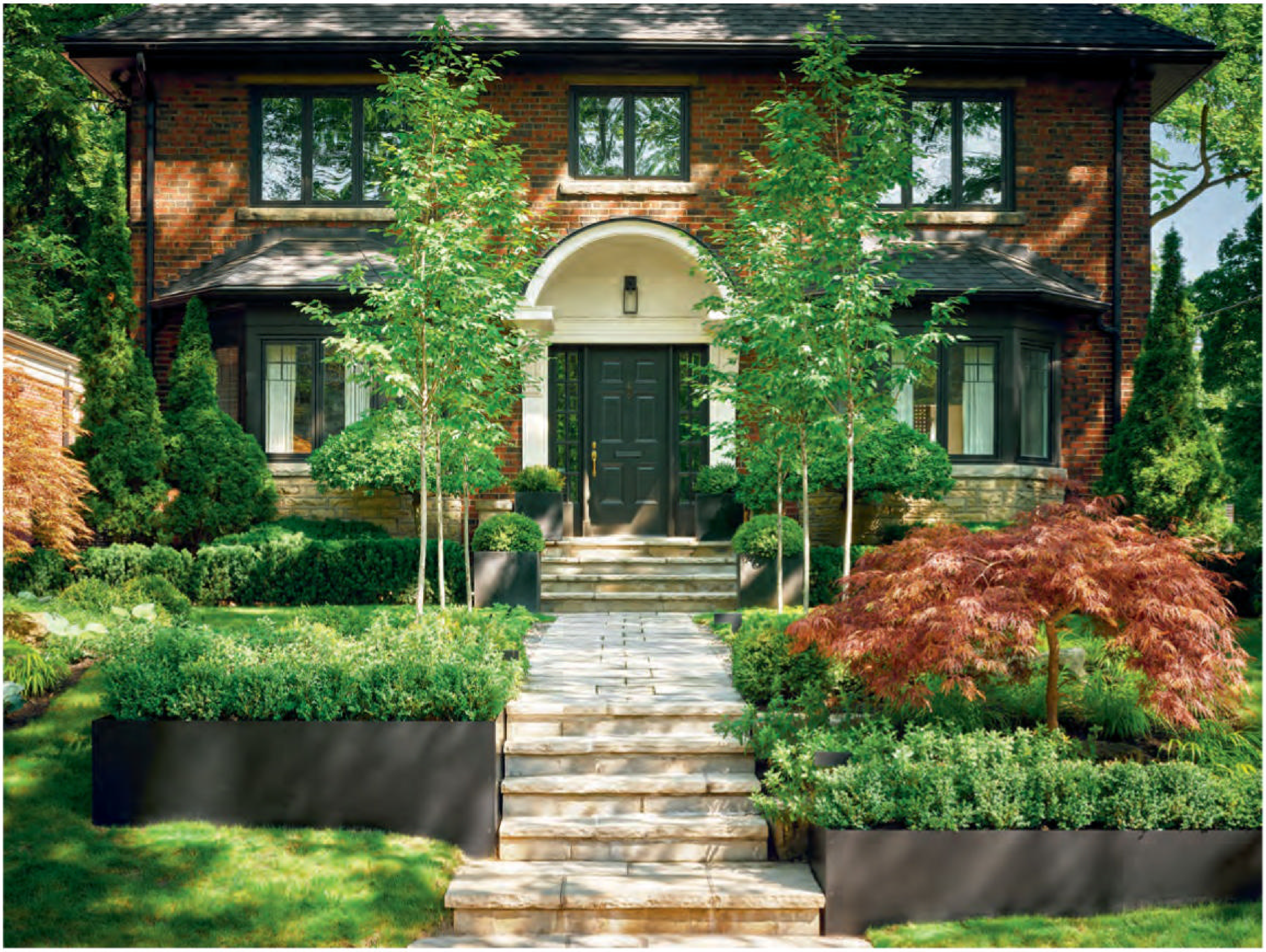
04 | Choose plant species native to your region, rather than exotics.

05 | Switch out your lawn to a native ground cover; it's just as tidy and green, but much lower maintenance.

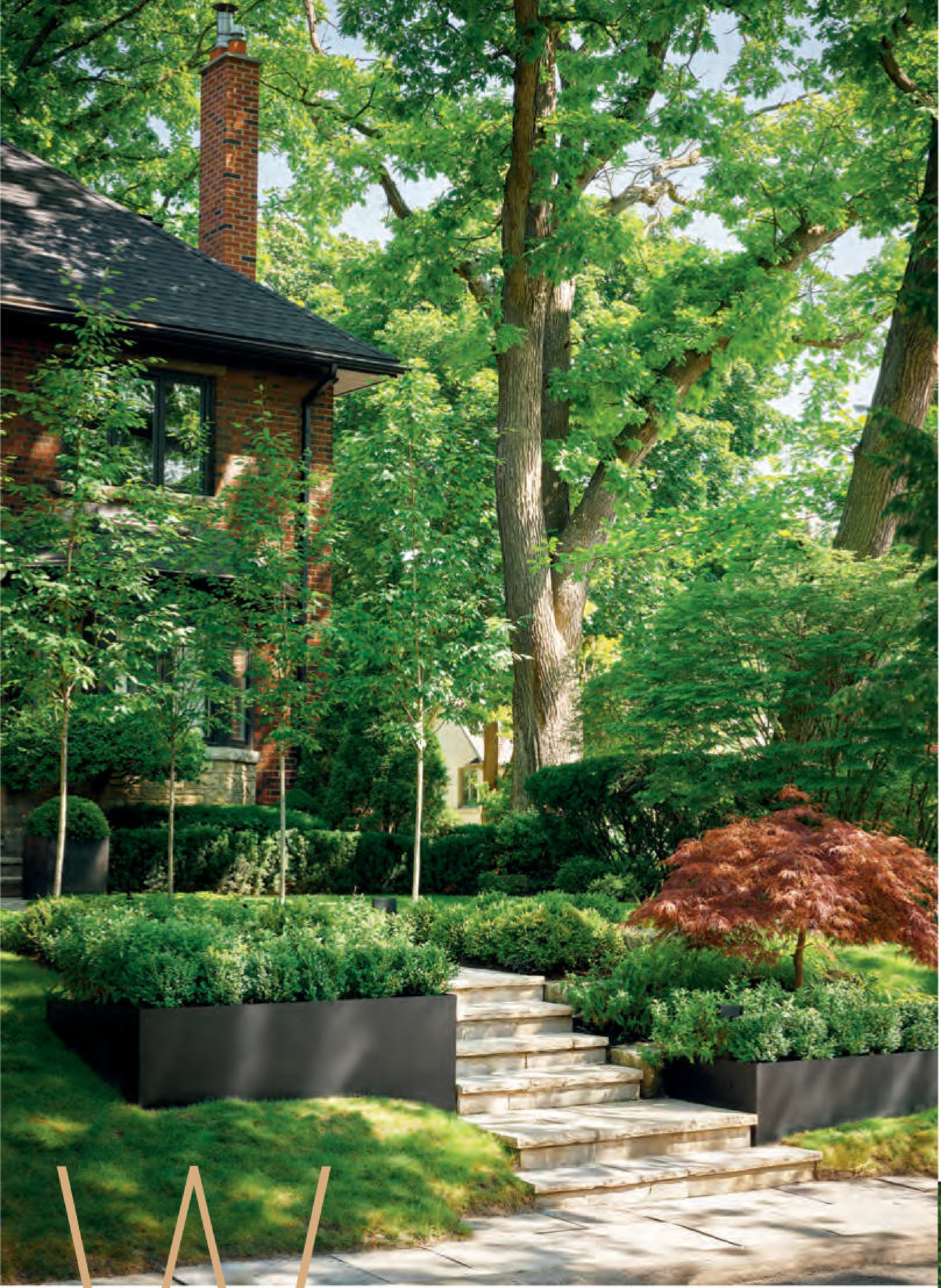
06 | Gardening expert Frankie Flowers notes that some Canadian municipalities offer incentives to replace hard surfaces on your property with gardens or green spaces that will absorb rainfall, helping to reduce local flooding. Check to see what's offered where you live.

FOR SOURCES, SEE OUR WORKBOOK

LAY OF THE LAND



A stepped design suits this property's hilly front and side gardens, which, along with the private backyard, are revamped with minimalistic planters, restrained colours and mass plantings. **TEXT** IRIS BENAROIA | **PHOTOGRAPHY** PATRICK BILLER



CONTEMPORARY EDGE

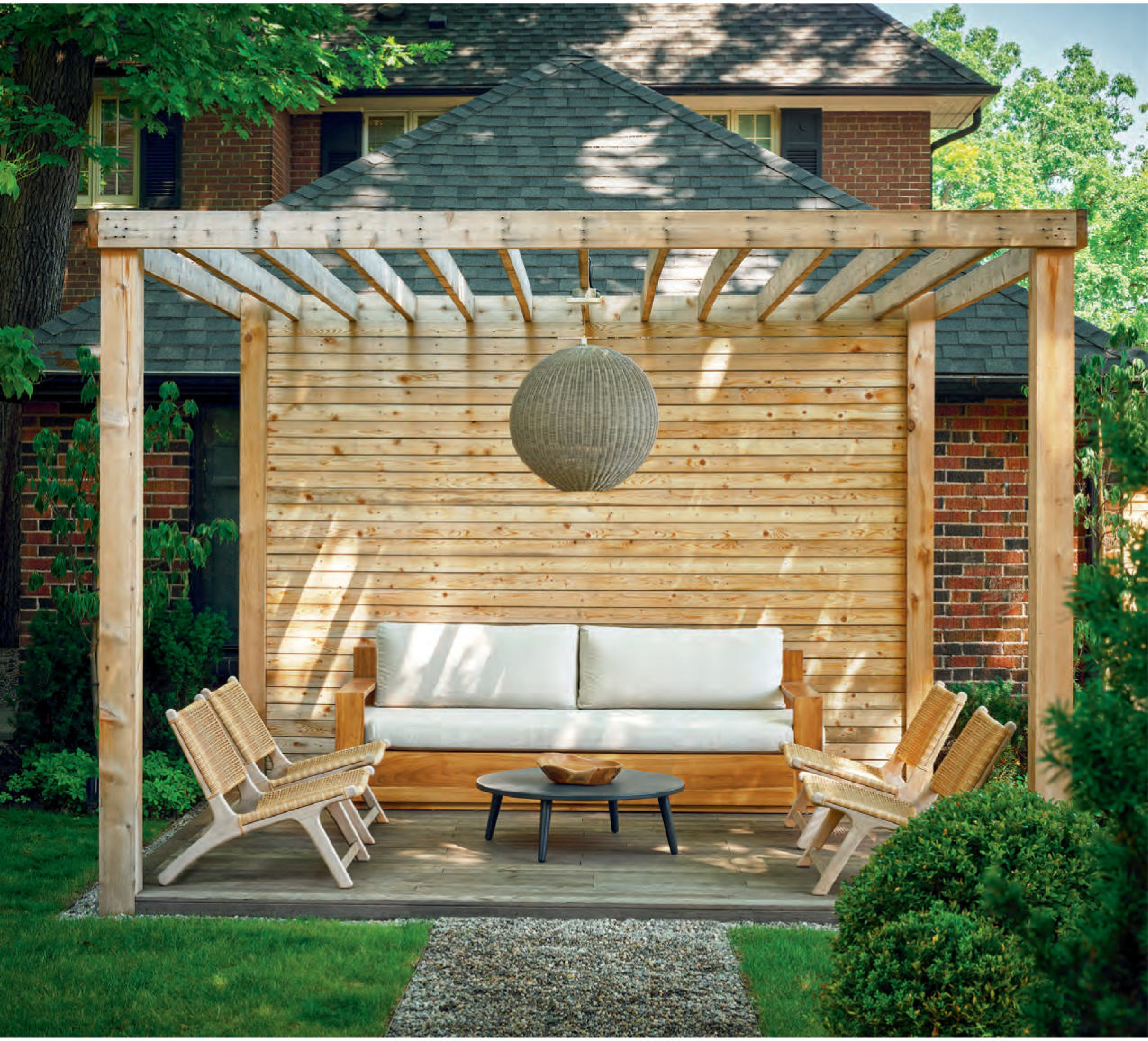
A bounty of greenery carpets the "modern and formal" stepped front garden, as landscape designer Leigh Gravenor describes it. To maintain a clean, contemporary look, Leigh switched out previously round beds for a rectangular scheme. The powder-coated steel planters along the front of the house contain boxwoods, salvia and hakone grass. "Framing the walkway with these planters contemporized it quite a bit, but it still melds with the existing trees," says Leigh.

LANDSCAPE DESIGN, Leigh Gravenor, Leigh Gravenor Landscape Design. **CONTRACTOR,** RV Construction. **OUTDOOR LIGHTING,** The Lightscapers. Powder-coated steel **PLANTERS** (front of house), True Stainless.

A HILL THAT THRILLS

"We took up all the grass and planted ground cover on the hilly side of the house," says Leigh of the vinca, which is especially pretty as it fills in over time. A uniform line of *Panicum virgatum* 'Blue Steel' grass in the planters lend stately height and interest along the fence.

With its 75-foot-wide frontage, this stately Toronto dwelling on a corner lot had major gardening potential. The property belongs to a pair of empty nesters who "were excited to embark on a refresh," says landscape designer Leigh Gravenor. She revamped the grounds, including the backyard and the sides of the house. Since the owners travel, easy upkeep was key. "The beautiful Japanese pachysandra ground cover keeps the weeds away, and we used shades of green for cohesion and mass plantings, so it feels very lush and modern," says Leigh. To make the verdant hues pop, she suggested painting the window frames black. Leigh also widened the limestone walkway. "We wanted a more impactful entry," she says. To that end, on either side of the new pathway, she planted an allée of *Amelanchier arborea* 'Robin Hill' single-stem trees. Says Leigh, "They have lovely flowers in spring and are beautiful at night when lit." Garden potential reached!



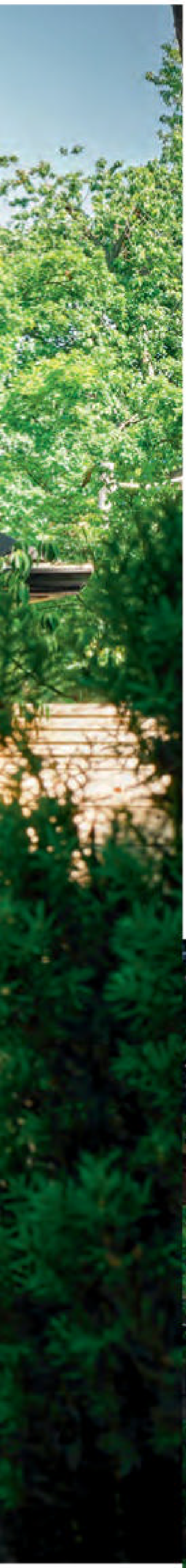
NATURAL SELECTION

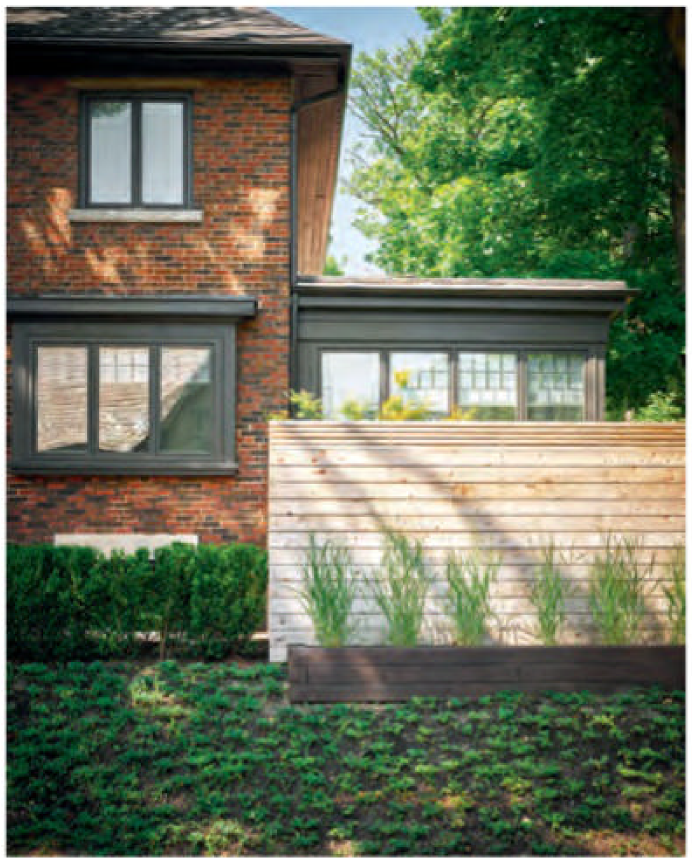
A pea gravel walkway leads to the pleasing new cedar pergola. “We wanted to create this nice seating area and at the same time hide the brick garage,” says Leigh. The relaxing spot is dressed naturally to match the landscaping. Teak furniture and an airy, open-weave resin light are the very picture of modern cool.

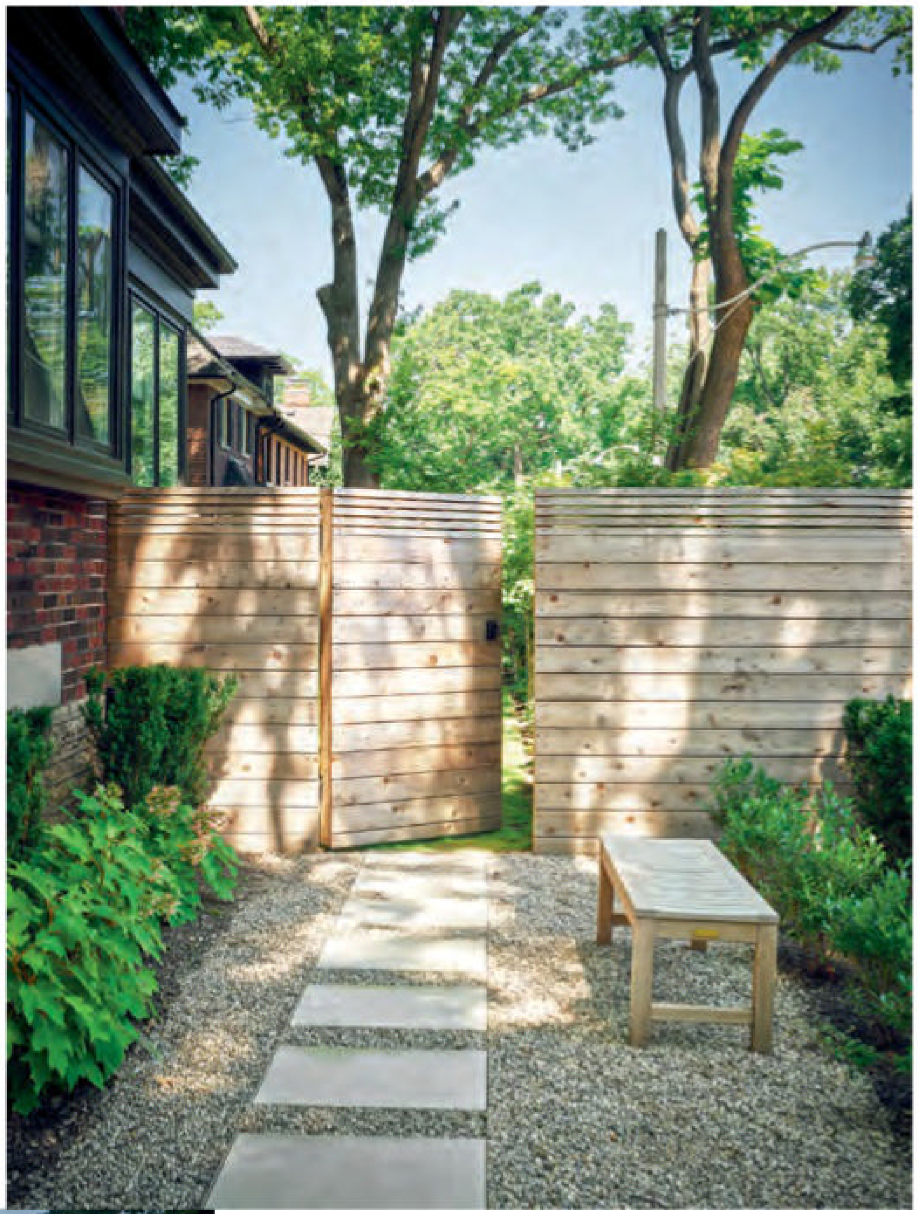
A SOLID FOUNDATION

Vivid green boxwoods in planters are simple, colourful flourishes by the new dining spot. The owners love to barbecue and enjoy drinks outside throughout the summer, “so we expanded the patio using Eramosa limestone,” says Leigh. The local material has an earthy elegance.

FURNITURE, PLANTERS, Casualife. **LIGHT,** Serena and Lily.







A QUIET MOMENT

This area used to be a way to get from the front to the back, but Leigh saw its potential "as a little moment to use," she says. To give it presence, the designer created this contemplative corner. The addition of a path surrounded by pea gravel and a bench makes it feel purposeful. A combination of 'Pee Wee' oakleaf hydrangeas, *Ilex glabra* and Hill's yews define the area. Lighting turns the sweet spot into a lovely place to sit at night, says Leigh.

BENCH, Casualife.

FOR SOURCES, SEE OUR WORKBOOK

"A SEATING AREA WITH A COMFY LOUNGER AND CHAIRS WAS A MUST FOR TAKING IN THIS BEAUTIFUL VIEW OF THE LAKE." *- Kelly Sigsworth*

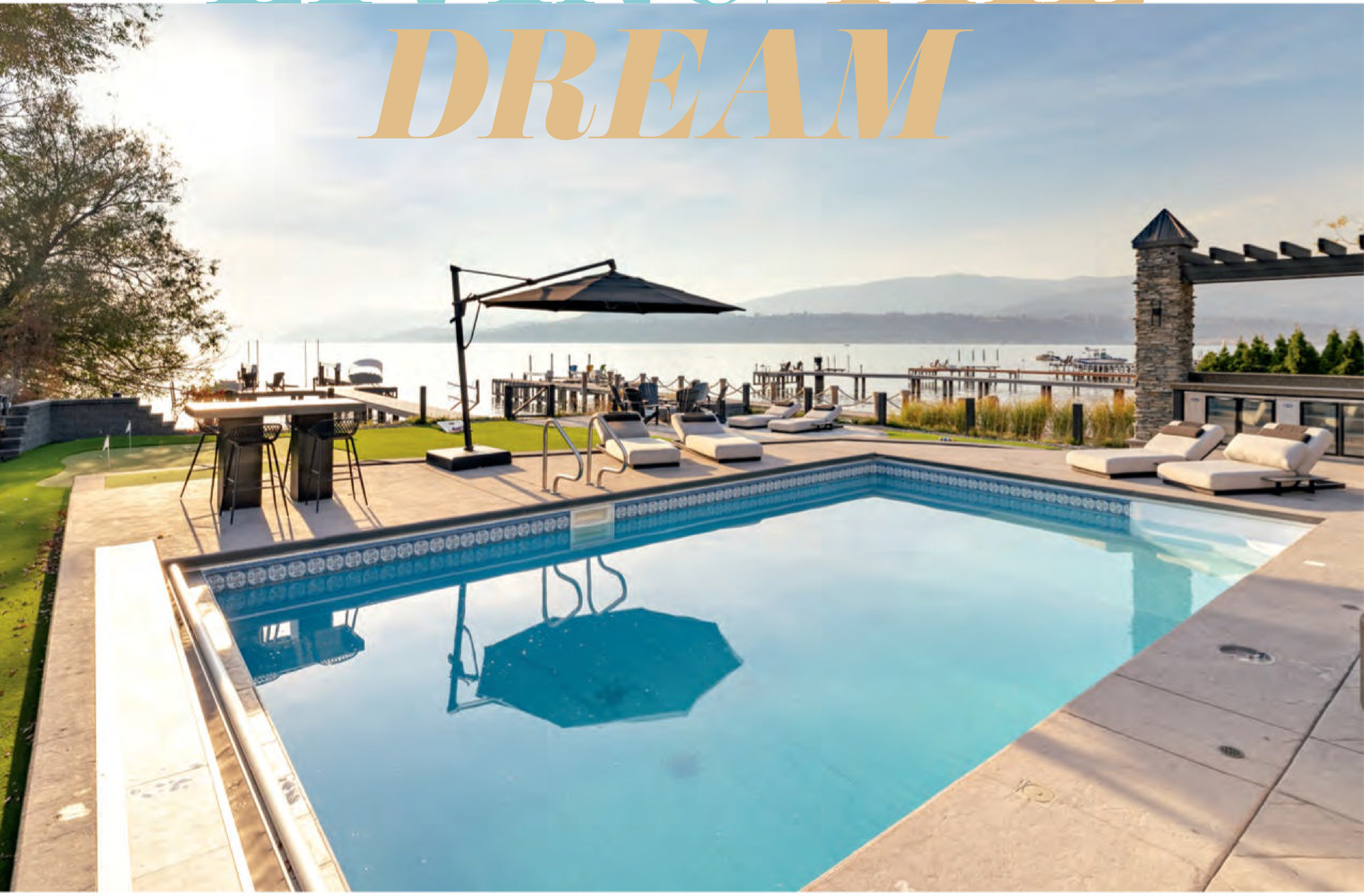
Decked Out

The Isabey Interiors design team replaced the original gangway, which had clunky-looking handrails of wooden posts linked together by chain railings, with a sleeker and wider railing-free version. A new large dock, furnished with an upholstered lounger and Muskoka chairs, was added. "It's always a good idea to maximize lake views," says lead exterior designer Kelly Sigsorth. "And I like when outdoor spaces have different zones to sit in."

DESIGN, Isabey Interiors. **MUSKOKA CHAIRS,** Wicker Land Patio.

A property with stunning views in Kelowna, B.C., is transformed by Isabey Interiors into beachy resort getaway. **TEXT** CHRISTY WRIGHT | **PHOTOGRAPHY** ETHAN DELICHTE AND TREVOR COOPER

LIVING THE DREAM



"This is a one-of-a-kind luxury vacation home that exudes the Okanagan lifestyle," says lead exterior designer Kelly Sigsworth of Isabey Interiors. For those not familiar with that particular way of life, imagine the convenience of nearby restaurants and shopping melded with the fresh-air bliss of breathtaking lake and mountain views. The idyllic vistas were the jumping-off point for the design team's revamp of this dreamy outdoor space. "The home's location directly on the water, in the heart of Kelowna, inspired our team to create a modern feel that incorporated clean lines, but also lots of warmth," says Kelly. "It had to be a home away from home for the owner, a busy professional who comes here to relax and have fun." →

Pool Party

The pavers were extended on the lake side of the pool to create space for another entertainment zone. "We wanted to include a little bar area here so that there was a spot to enjoy a poolside cocktail or snack," says Trisha Isabey, founder and creative director of Isabey Interiors. "We made sure to use high barstools for an elevated perch that gains the best lake views."

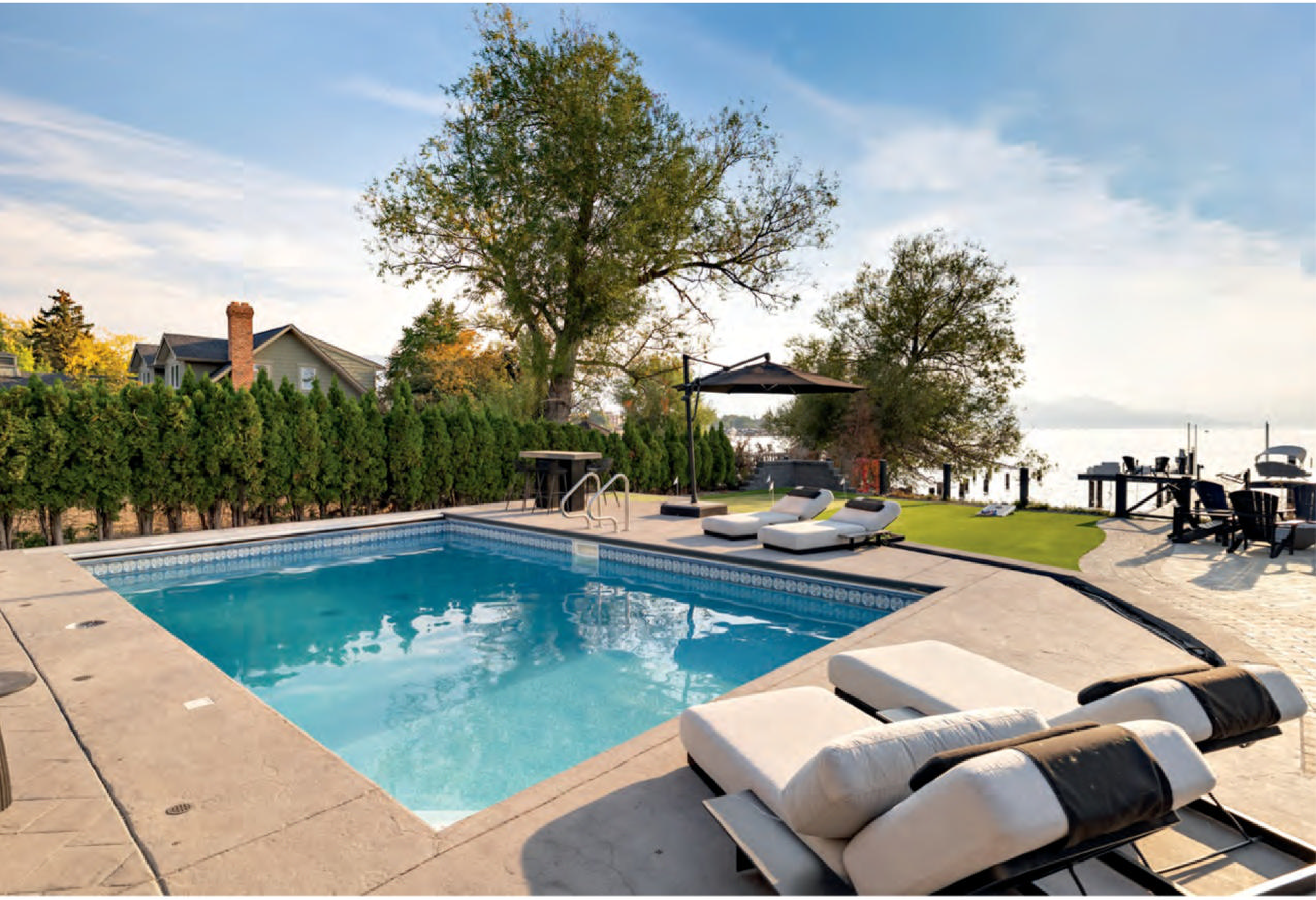
HIGHTOP BAR, BARSTOOLS, black **SIDE TABLES,** Moe's Home Collection. **LOUNGERS,** Rove Concepts. **UMBRELLA,** Beachcomber Home Leisure. **SCONCES,** Robinson Lighting.

The original yard had some keeper features in place, like the barbecue area and Hockney-hued pool, but the layout and furnishings needed an upgrade. "I wanted to introduce modern elements to the space that would speak to the owner's love of having friends over," says Kelly. The design team's plan included changing the layout to fit a larger hot tub, rebuilding the dock, and replacing the deck's dark, dated stone with pale contemporary pavers; it also included decorative refreshes, too, such as new furniture and lighting. With zero maintenance in mind, even artificial turf was added. Kelly says, "Everything is extremely functional and, most important, ready to welcome the owner or guests with equal ease."

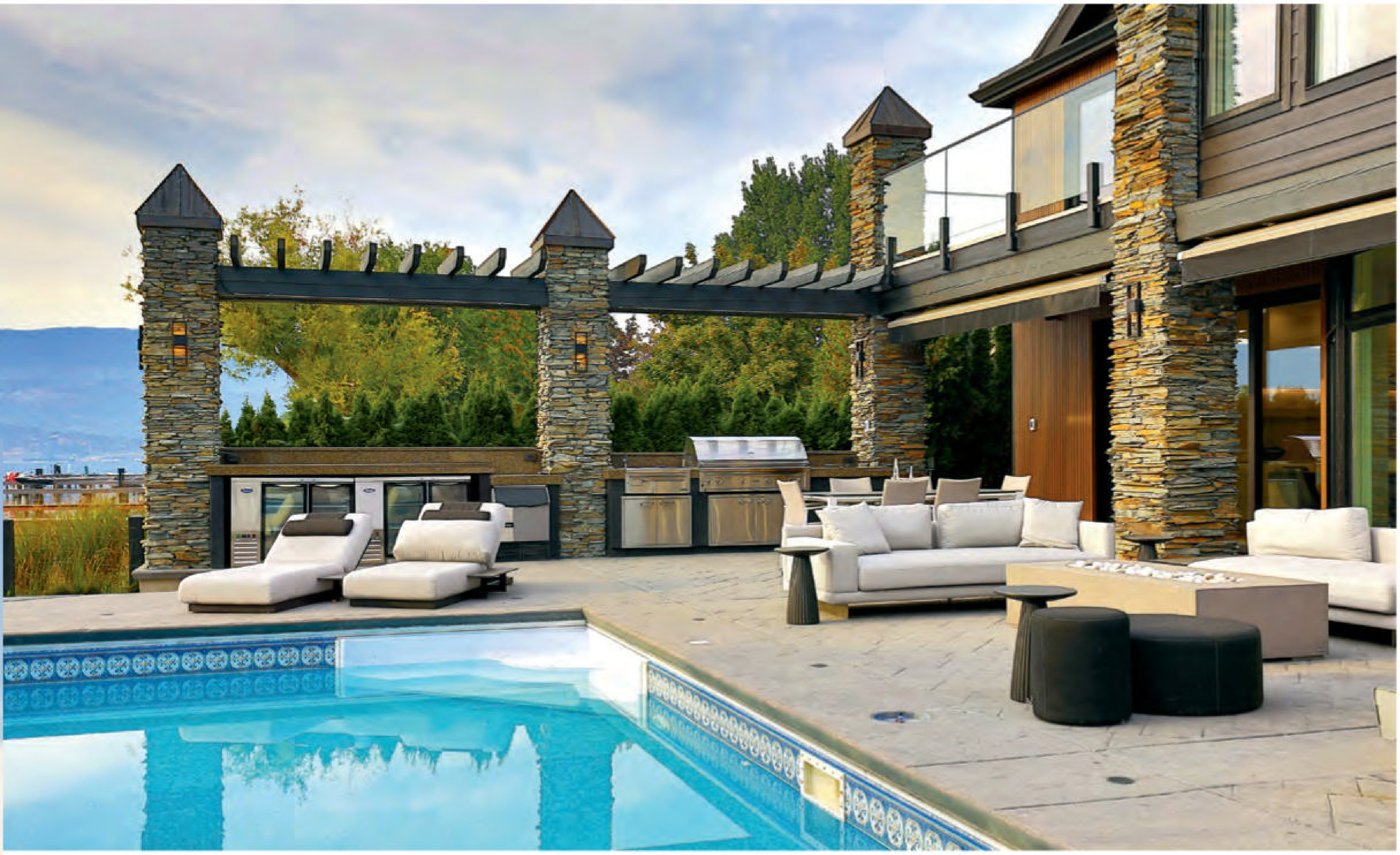
Green Space

The design team relied on Mother Nature to soften one side of the yard. "We used cedars to create some privacy between the client's property and the neighbouring lot," says Trisha. "The cedars also help maintain an organic, natural feel with all the other surrounding greenery." The artificial turf beyond the pool looks like the real thing and stands up to the Kelowna sunshine.

TURF, SYNLawn Canada.



> *"THE WIDE SHADE UMBRELLA SWIVELS TO MOVE WITH THE SUN AND BEAT THAT OKANAGAN SUMMERTIME HEAT."- Kelly Sigsworth*



“THIS NOW FEELS LIKE A MODERN AND AIRY LAKESIDE SPACE DESIGNED FOR VACATIONS AND EASY ENTERTAINING.”- *Kelly Sigsworth*

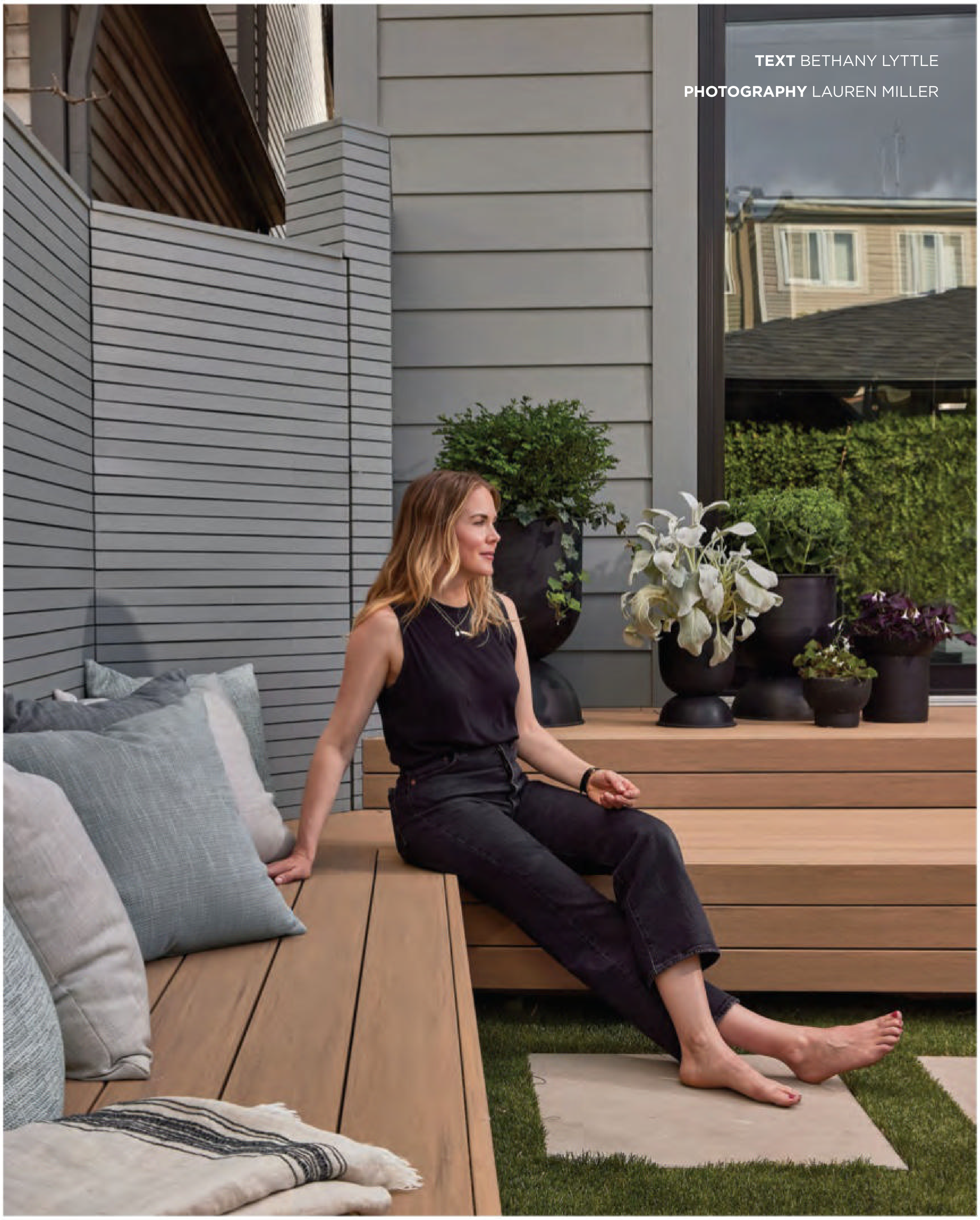
Lounge Zone

New outdoor furniture and lighting craft that getaway feel that the design team was after. “The black tables bring a sleek, lounge-like element to the fire table and seating area,” says Kelly. “The sofa and lounger layer in a modern look, while not overpowering with their subtle grey colour.” Contemporary sconces adorn the home’s outdoor pillars to provide soft, ambient lighting; that mood is furthered by the fire table.

SOFA (on dock), **SECTIONAL,** black **COFFEE TABLE,** Beachcomber Home Leisure. **FIRE TABLE,** Canada Outdoor Kitchens.

Big City, SMALL YARD

A home in Toronto with a tiny backyard gets not one but two fabulous outdoor spaces.



TEXT BETHANY LYTTLE
PHOTOGRAPHY LAUREN MILLER

Two outdoor spaces. Two tiny footprints. One fabulous mandate from the clients: lower the maintenance and turn up the fun! For designer Erin Hannon-Watkinson, these were challenges that played to her strengths. After all, she's an enthusiastic proponent of using built-ins and convertible furnishings. "They're a great way to double the function and dial down the clutter in small spaces," she explains. And they proved a genius way to fulfill her clients' desire for a restful backyard haven and hip urban rooftop lounge.

BUILT-IN BLISS

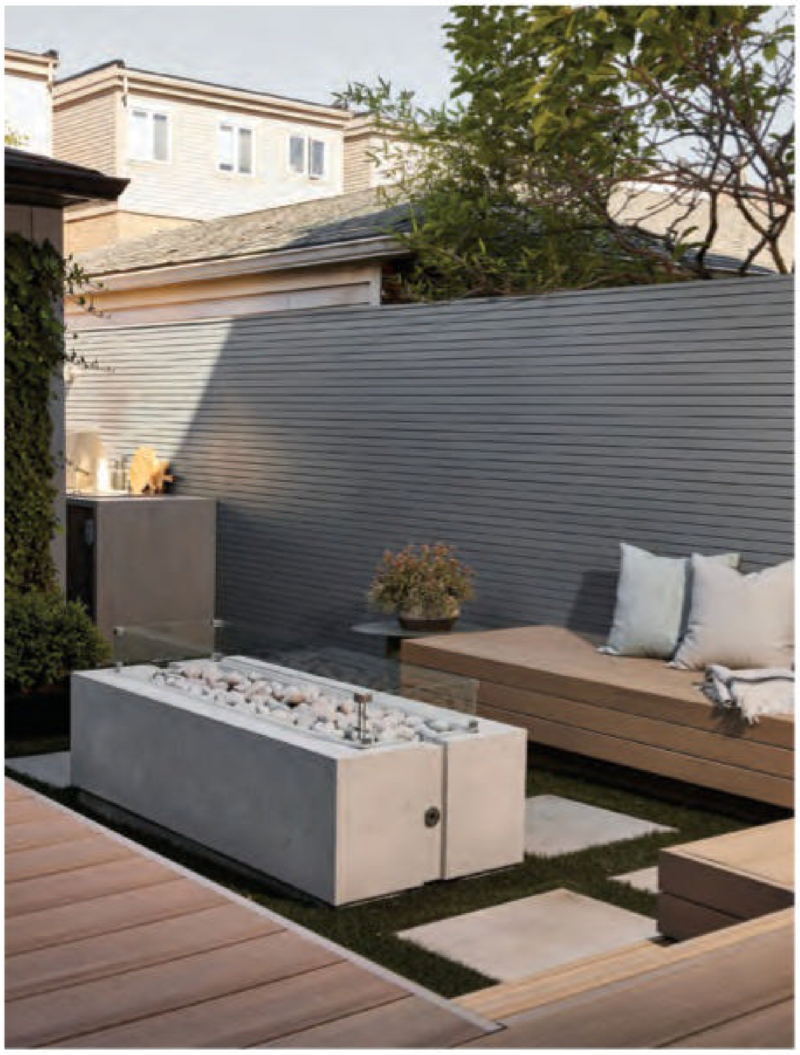
Designer Erin Hannon-Watkinson (shown) created a serene sitting area a few steps down from the kitchen-level decking; in a space-saving move, the wide steps double as bench seating. The barefoot-friendly concrete pavers and artificial turf add a fun graphic element, while four sides of slim-slatted fencing provide rare-in-Toronto privacy. Says Erin: "I think of this as an outdoor room, not a backyard. It's so much more than that."

DESIGN, Erin Hannon-Watkinson, Studio HA/WA. **PLANTERS,** Ferm Living. Ryder **PILLOWS,** Tonic Living.

ONE-STOP WONDERFUL

Erin placed a comfy daybed beside the plunge pool. "It's perfect for entertaining," she says. Orb-shaped objects create a sculpture garden feel. To maximize the 460-square-foot space, Erin tucked an outdoor kitchen, complete with an icebox fridge, into the back corner. She chose a firepit with removable top, she says, "so it doubles as a coffee table. Multifunctional pieces like this are ideal for small spaces."

OUTDOOR KITCHEN, Urban Bonfire. **COUNTERTOPS,** Dekton. Carrie portable LED **LAMP,** Menu. **FIREPIT,** Dekko. Tribu **DAYBED, SIDE TABLE,** Avenue Road. **TERRAZZO BALLS,** CB2. **SIDE TABLE,** Blu Dot.

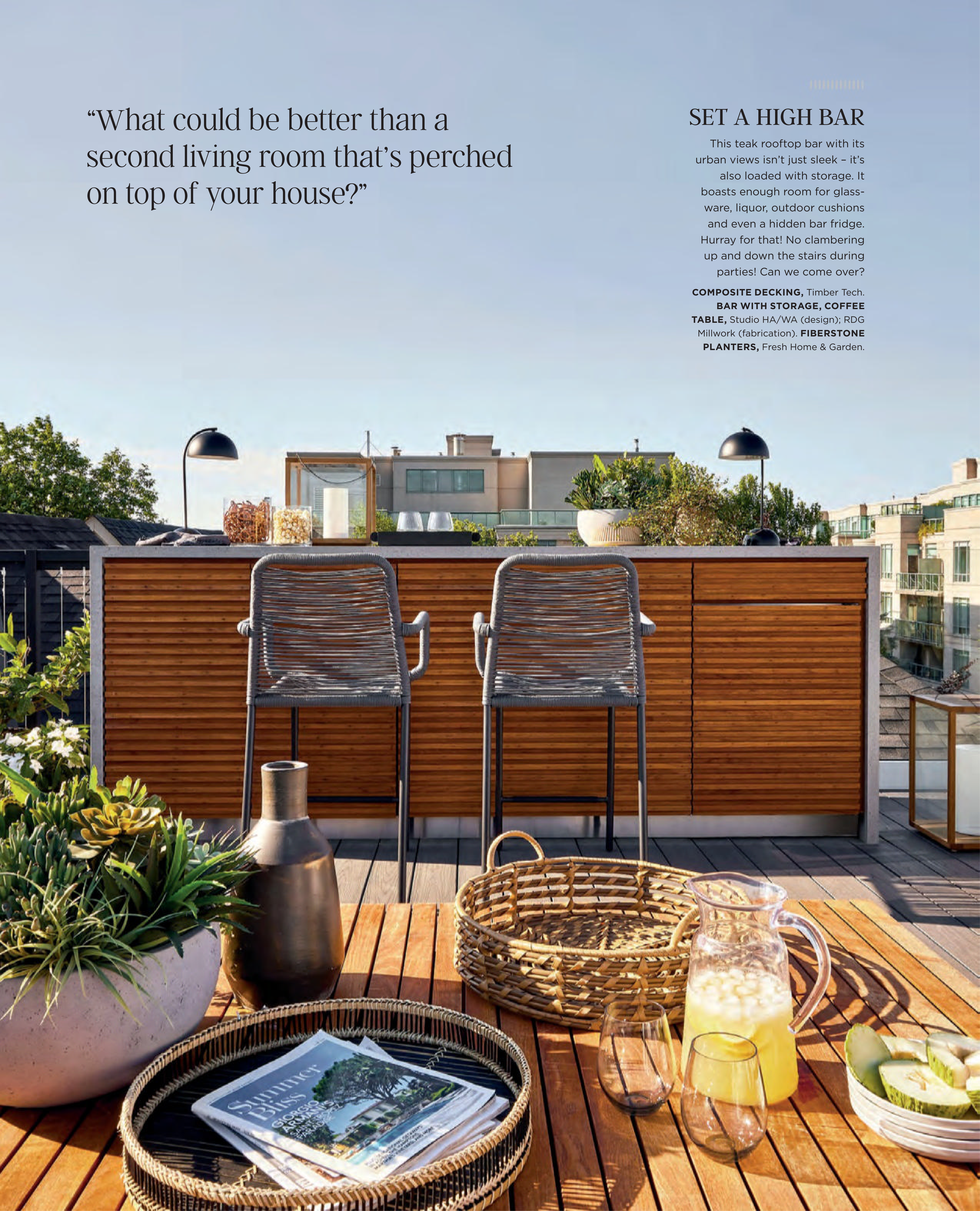


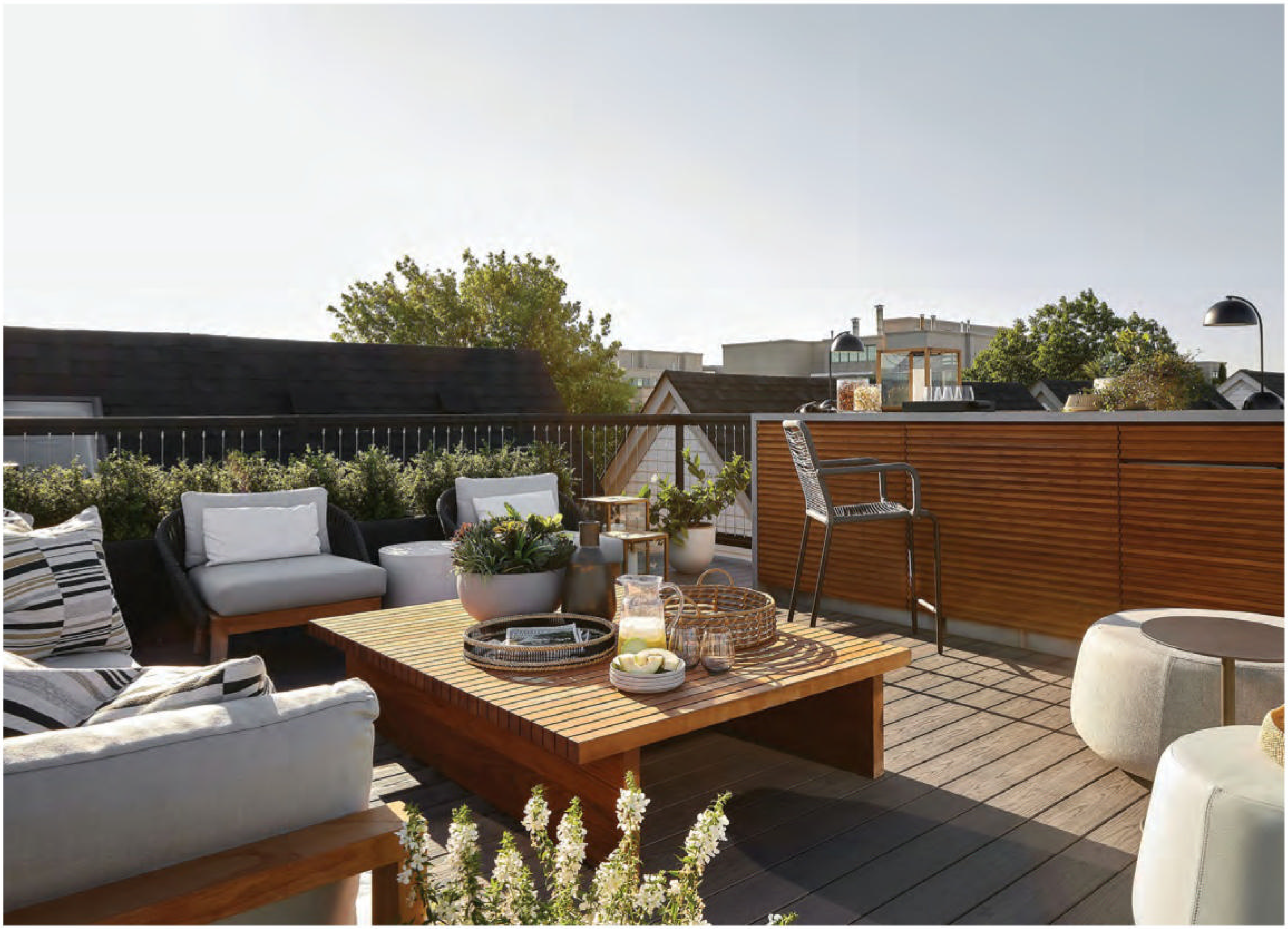
SET A HIGH BAR

This teak rooftop bar with its urban views isn't just sleek – it's also loaded with storage. It boasts enough room for glassware, liquor, outdoor cushions and even a hidden bar fridge. Hurray for that! No clambering up and down the stairs during parties! Can we come over?

COMPOSITE DECKING, Timber Tech. **BAR WITH STORAGE, COFFEE TABLE,** Studio HA/WA (design); RDG Millwork (fabrication). **FIBERSTONE PLANTERS,** Fresh Home & Garden.

> "What could be better than a second living room that's perched on top of your house?"

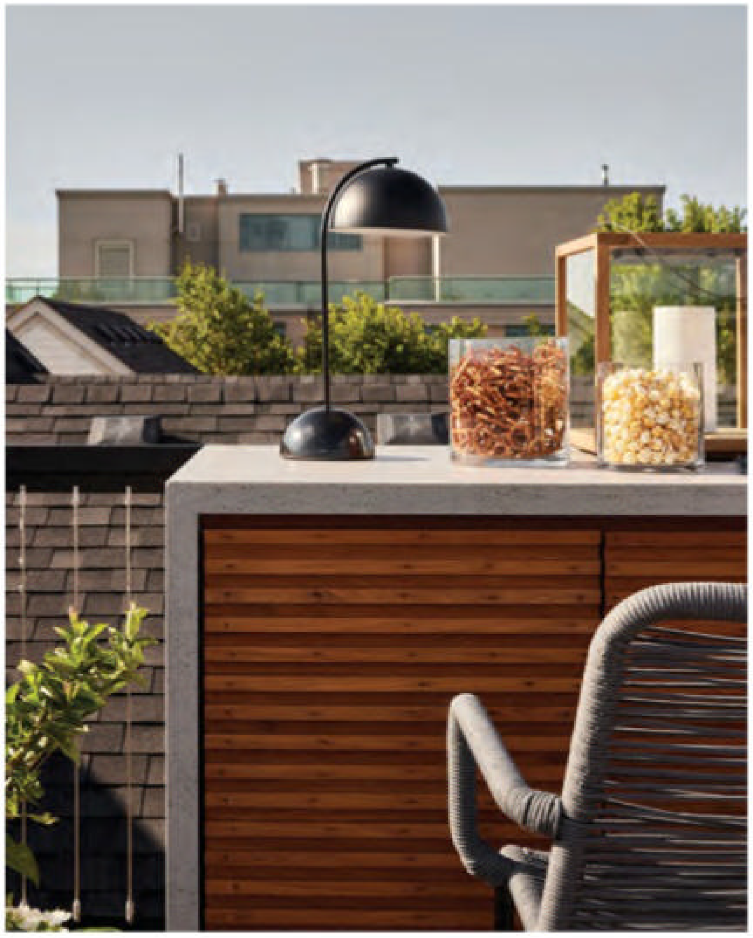




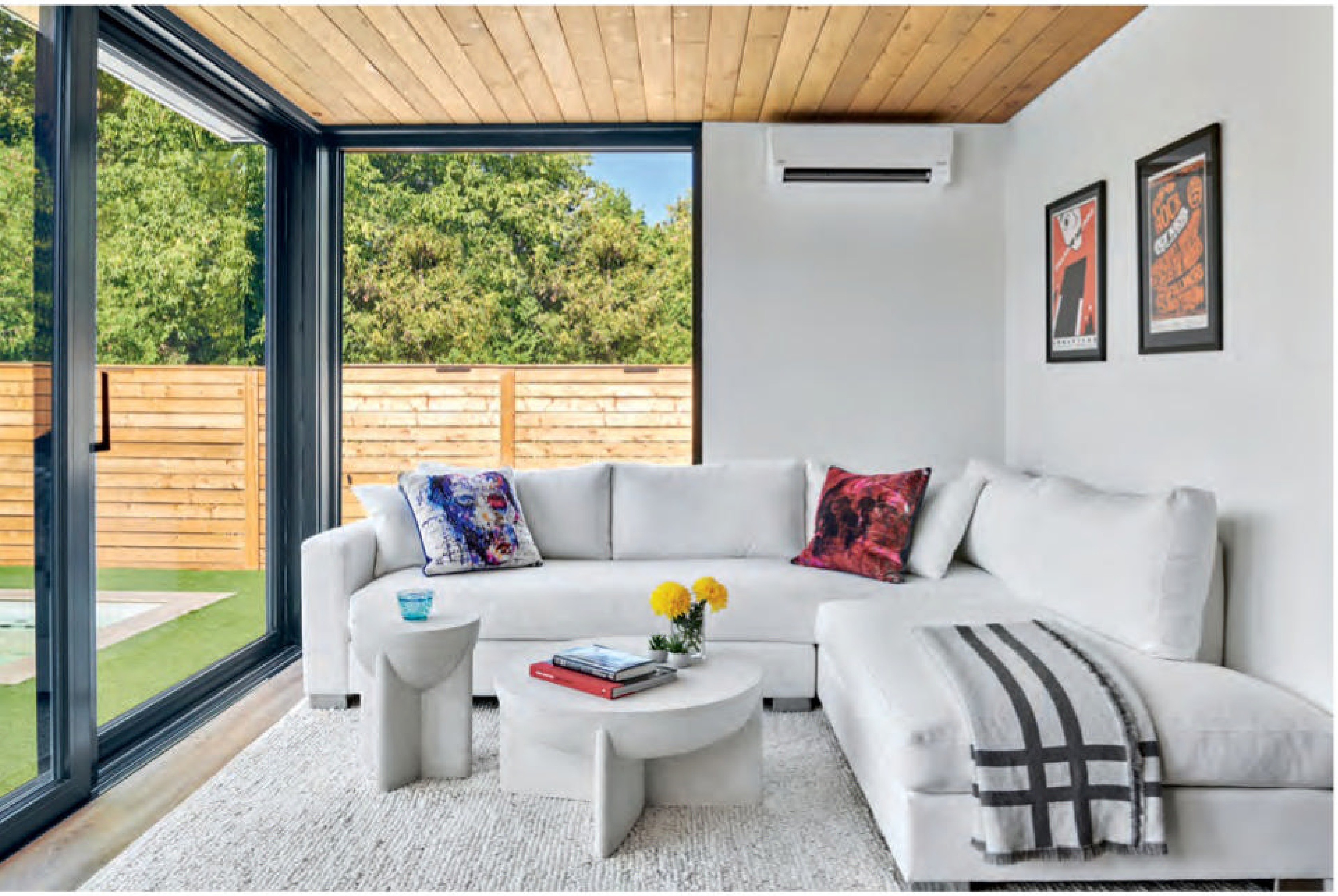
TOP OF THE WORLD

The rooftop deck, set against the captivating city skyline, is the place to be for fireworks watching and cocktail sipping. “Even though we had only 325 square feet to work with, we kept the emphasis on comfort,” says Erin. The generous chairs and sofa are drawn up to an expansive teak table, and sculptural leather poufs are easy for guests to move around. Metal side tables are weather friendly.

Tribu **ARMCHAIRS, SOFA, POUFS, LANTERNS** and **SIDE TABLE,** Avenue Road.



SPLASHY CABANA



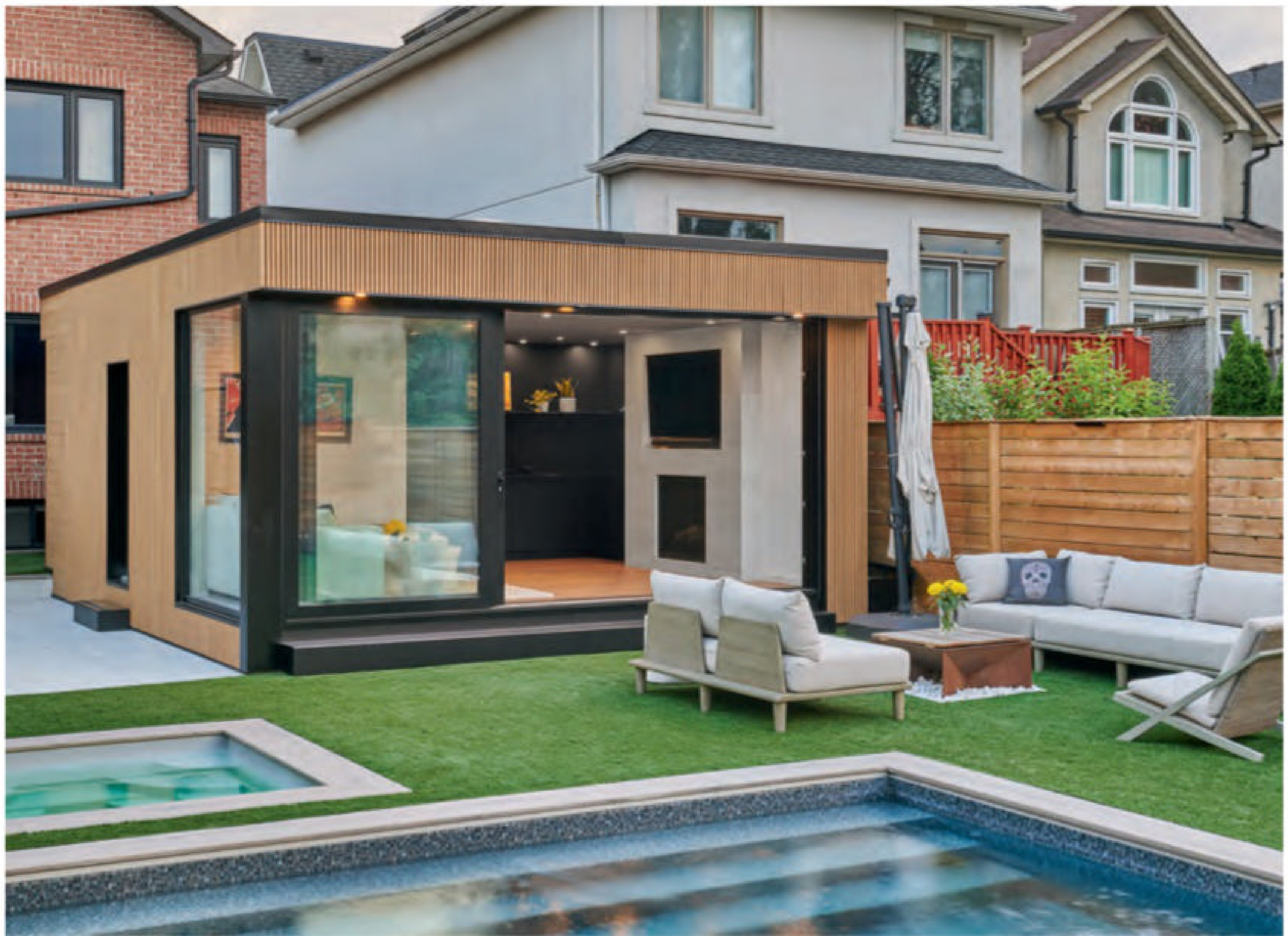
A ho-hum garage is converted into a stylish multiuse pool house with star power.

TEXT
IRIS BENAROIA
PHOTOGRAPHY
STEPHANI BUCHMAN

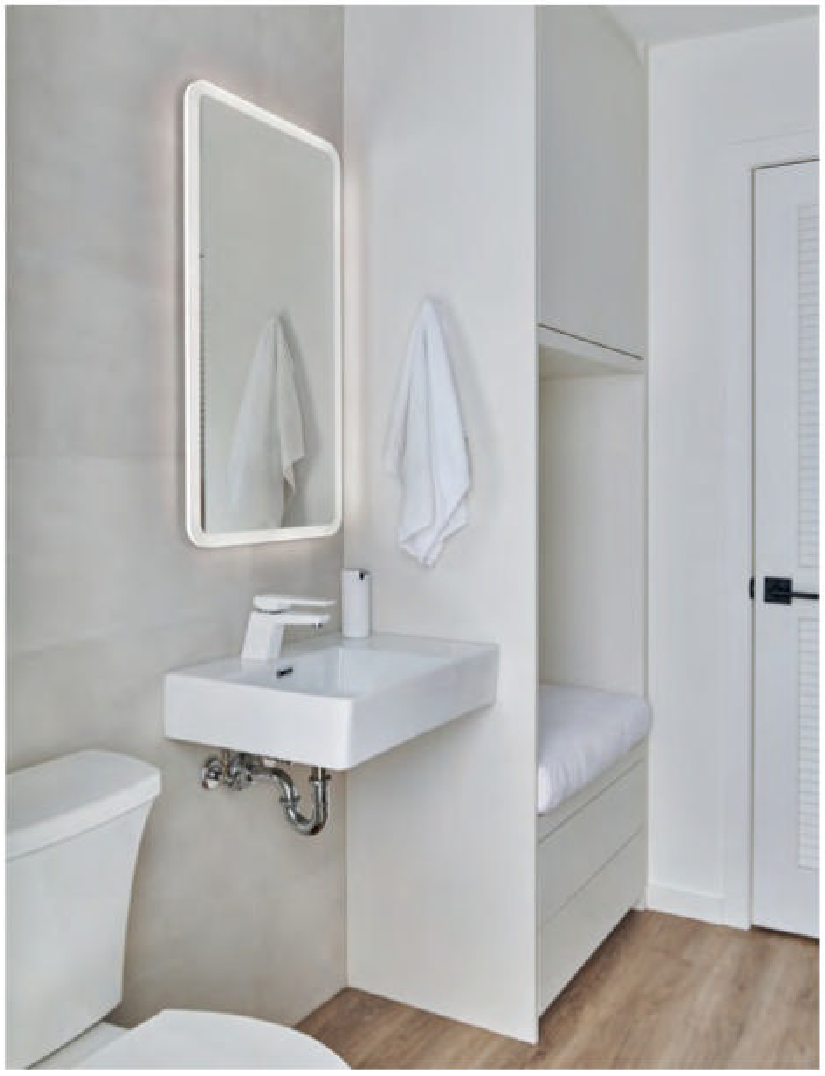
MODERN & MULTIUSE

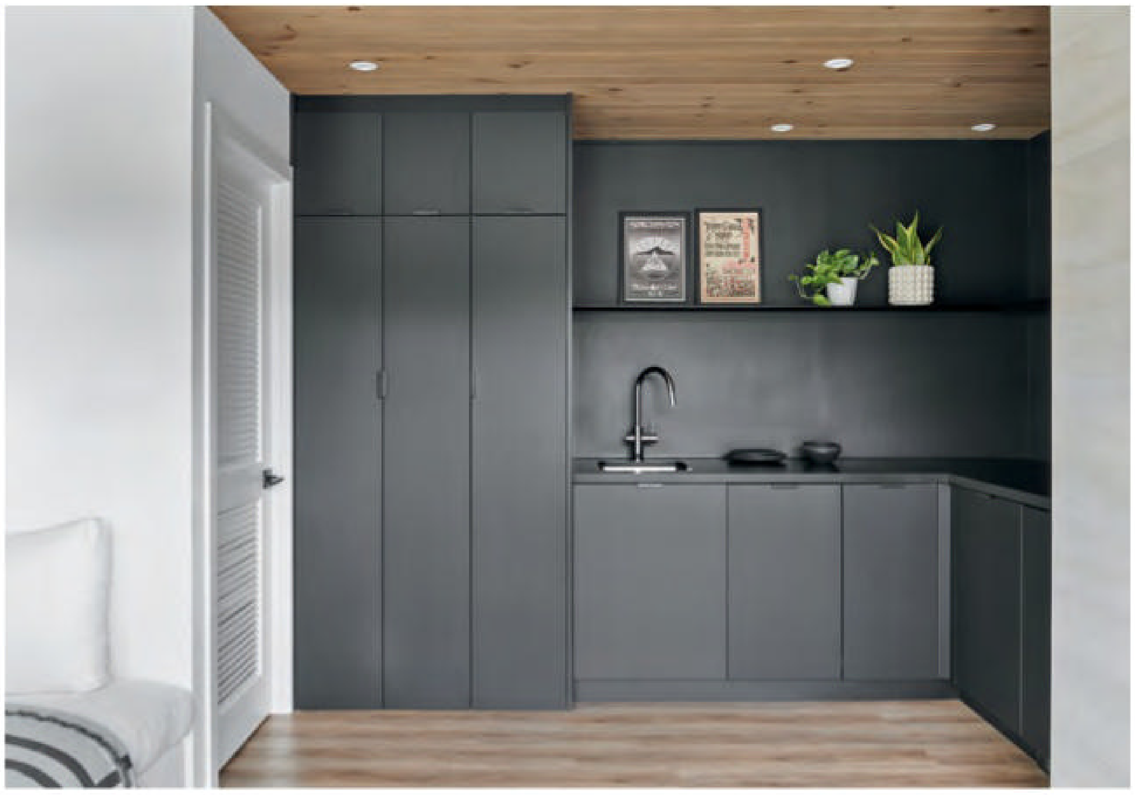
Vertical channels of composite and black trim give the cabana a warm, dynamic, contemporary look. The generous double sliding glass door lets the summer breeze into the living room, where a cushy sectional is home base for the family of five (which includes three young children) all year long. "The pool house is heated from various sources," says Don Aquila. "There's the split-duct wall unit, a gas fireplace and in-floor electric radiant heating."

DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION, Flux Developments. **EXTERIOR CLADDING,** Nuewal. **GLASS DOOR,** Luxal. **SOFA,** Van Gogh Designs. **RUG, TABLES,** West Elm. **OUTDOOR FURNITURE,** CB2. **PILLOWS,** Renwil. **OUTDOOR FIREPIT,** Design Within Reach. **BLANKET,** HomeSense.



A California West Coast vibe was the look these homeowners were after for their 450-square-foot cabana, says Linda Aquila, co-founder, along with her brother Don Aquila, of design-build firm Flux Developments. Located in a leafy midtown Toronto neighbourhood, the cabana was transformed out of a shabby garage. "They were mostly using it for storage," says Linda. To create the urban escape, Linda and Don, working with their team and with the owners, equipped the space with all the amentites: living room, fireplace, wet bar, and even bathroom and laundry facilities. Natural wood marries with clean-lined furnishings for a minimal but sleek aesthetic, while storage is neatly tucked away on the driveway-facing side of the structure. On hot summer days, the owners simply throw open the glass door and "the swivel arm pulls out the TV so they can watch it while in the pool," says Don. So chill, and very SoCal!





SHIPSHAPE SIMPLICITY

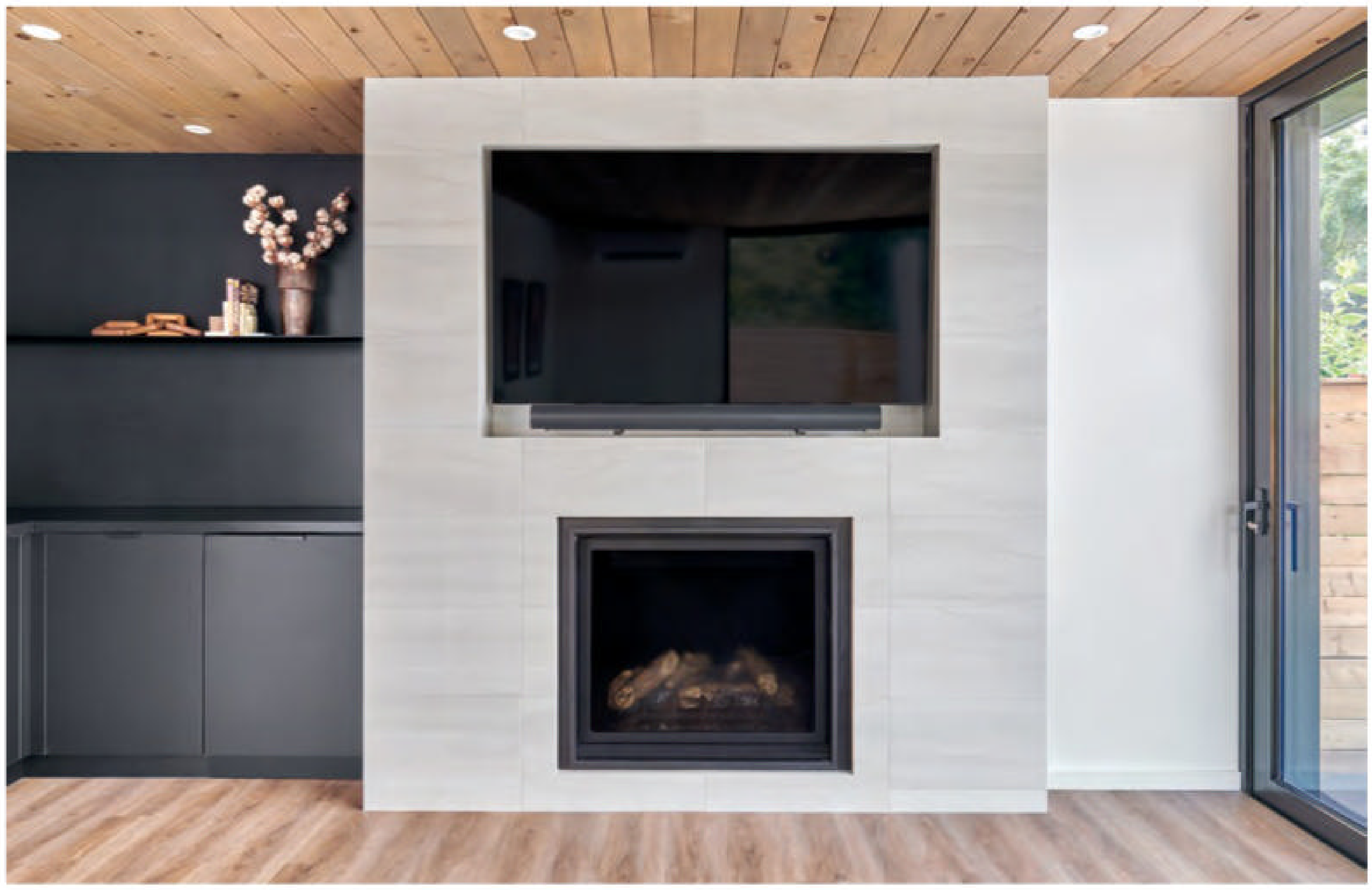
The loo embraces soothing hues and smart function. "The bathroom has a storage cabinet and a seating bench with a pullout hamper underneath it for wet clothes," says Linda Aquila.

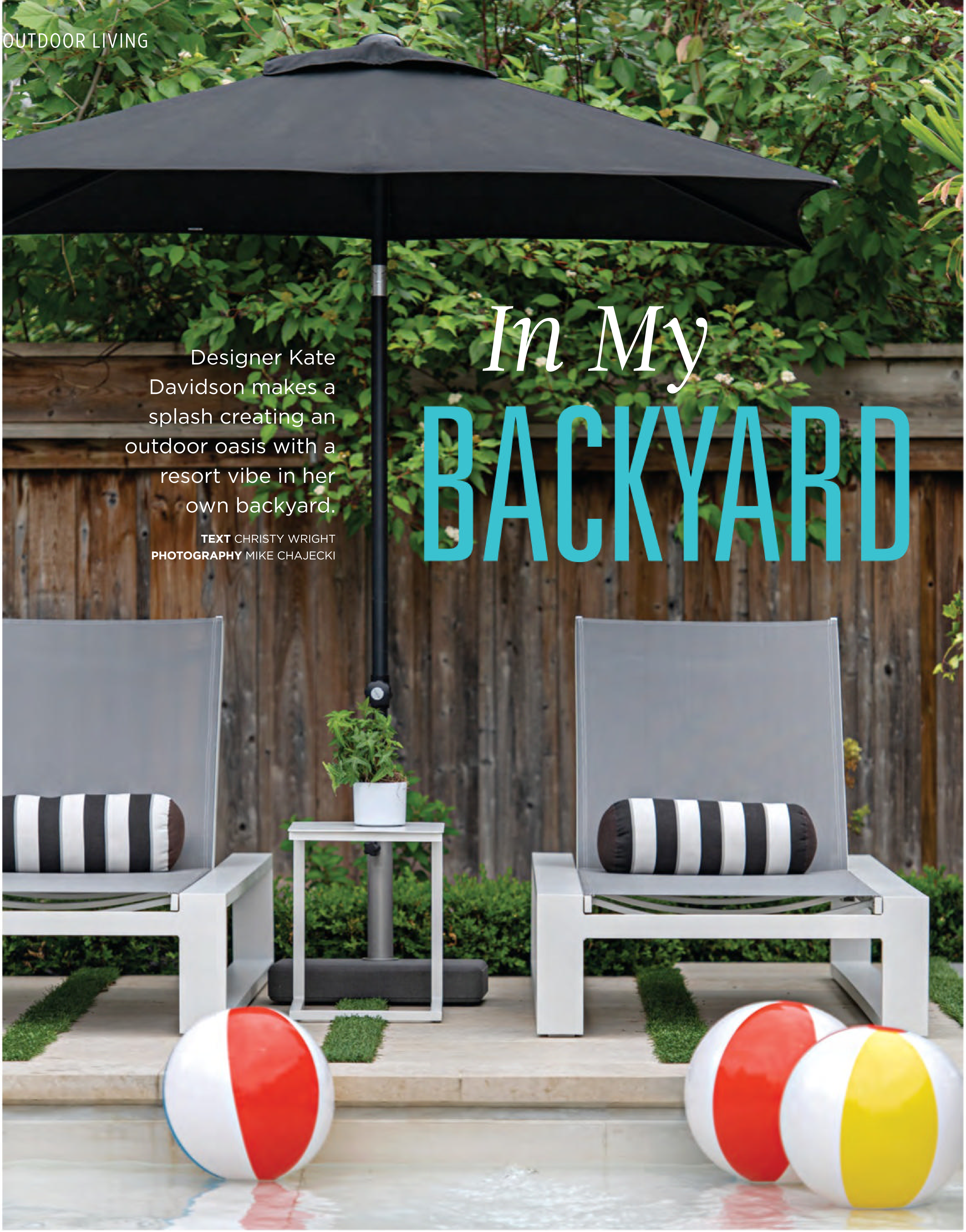
SINK, FAUCET, Wayfair. **MIRROR,** Kichler.

RICHLY DRAMATIC

Black cabinetry lends edgy elegance to the space. There's a low fridge stocked with snacks and drinks hidden to the left of the fireplace, and a handy stackable washer and dryer is concealed in cabinetry near the sink. "To keep the space warm and friendly, we used stained knotty pine with potlights on the ceiling," says Don. The floors are durable vinyl – smart for wet feet!

CABINETRY, Treehouse Fine Cabinetry. **FIREPLACE,** Kingsman Fireplaces. **FLOORING,** Alexanian Carpet & Flooring.



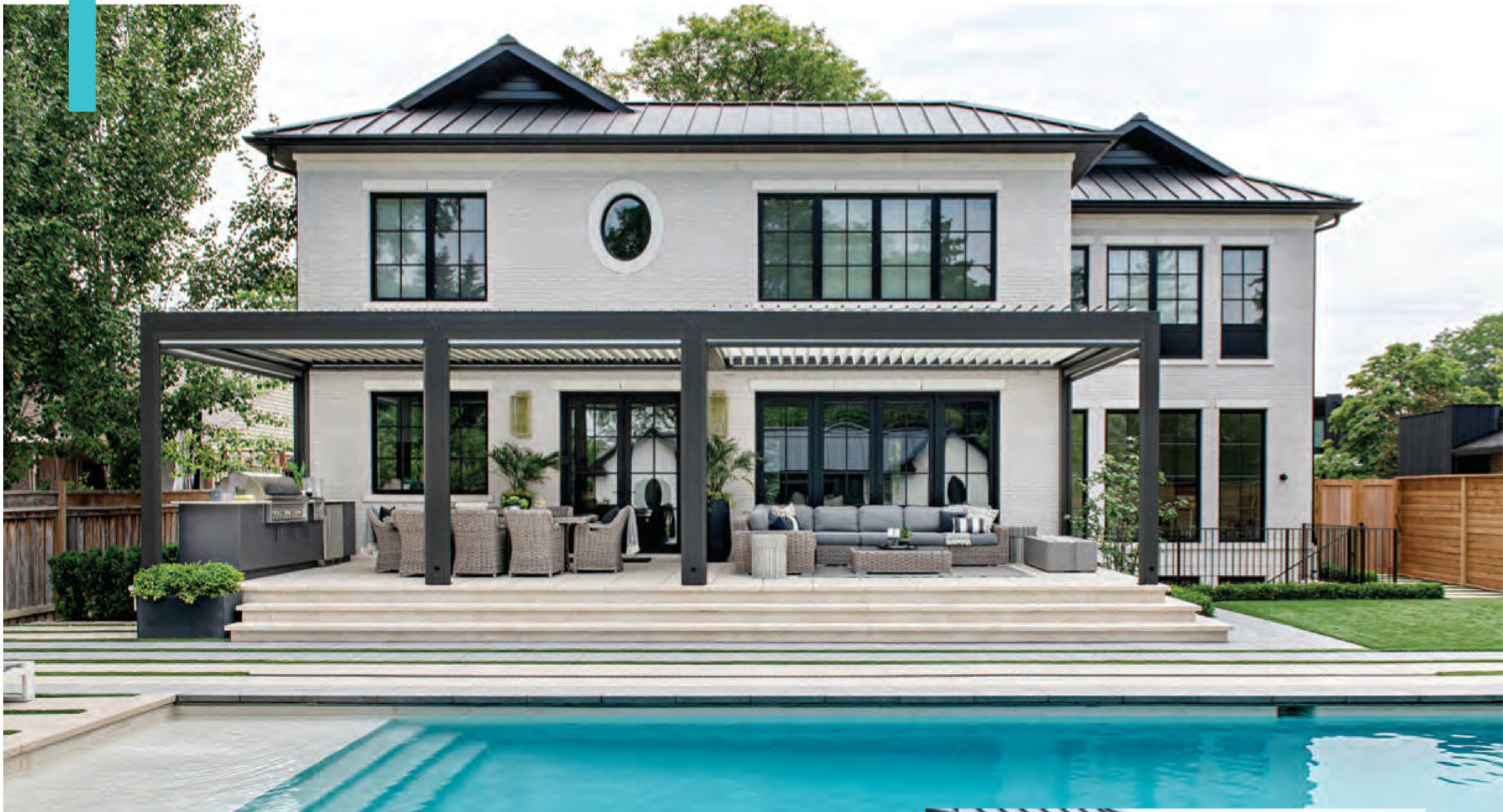


In My BACKYARD

Designer Kate Davidson makes a splash creating an outdoor oasis with a resort vibe in her own backyard.

TEXT CHRISTY WRIGHT
PHOTOGRAPHY MIKE CHAJECKI

If it's a summer day in Toronto's Etobicoke area, the backyard of Kate Davidson's custom home will be the site of all sorts of fun and frolic. Her husband might be crisping up a margherita in the wood-burning pizza oven, their three daughters Marco Polo-ing in the pool, and Kate lounging with a good book. And that's exactly how the designer likes it. "It was important for me to create different zones," says Kate. "Ones that are ideal for bringing us comfort as a family of five, as well as for hosting guests." Her design vision, which combines understated elegance with comfort and durability, achieves just that, and swimmingly so.

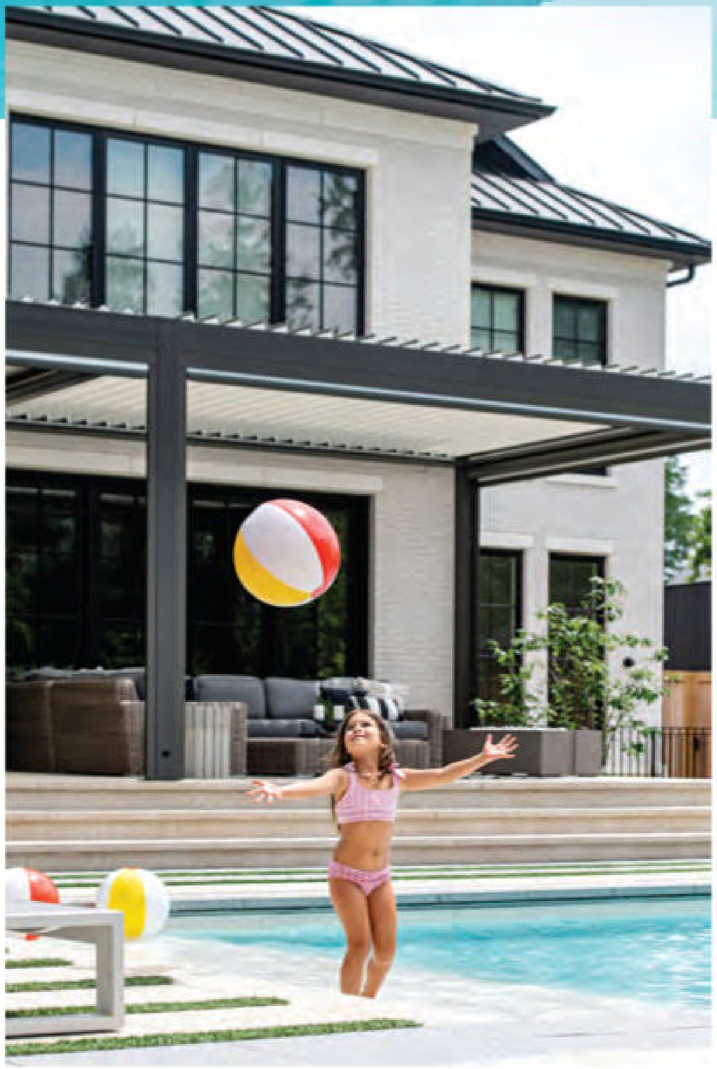


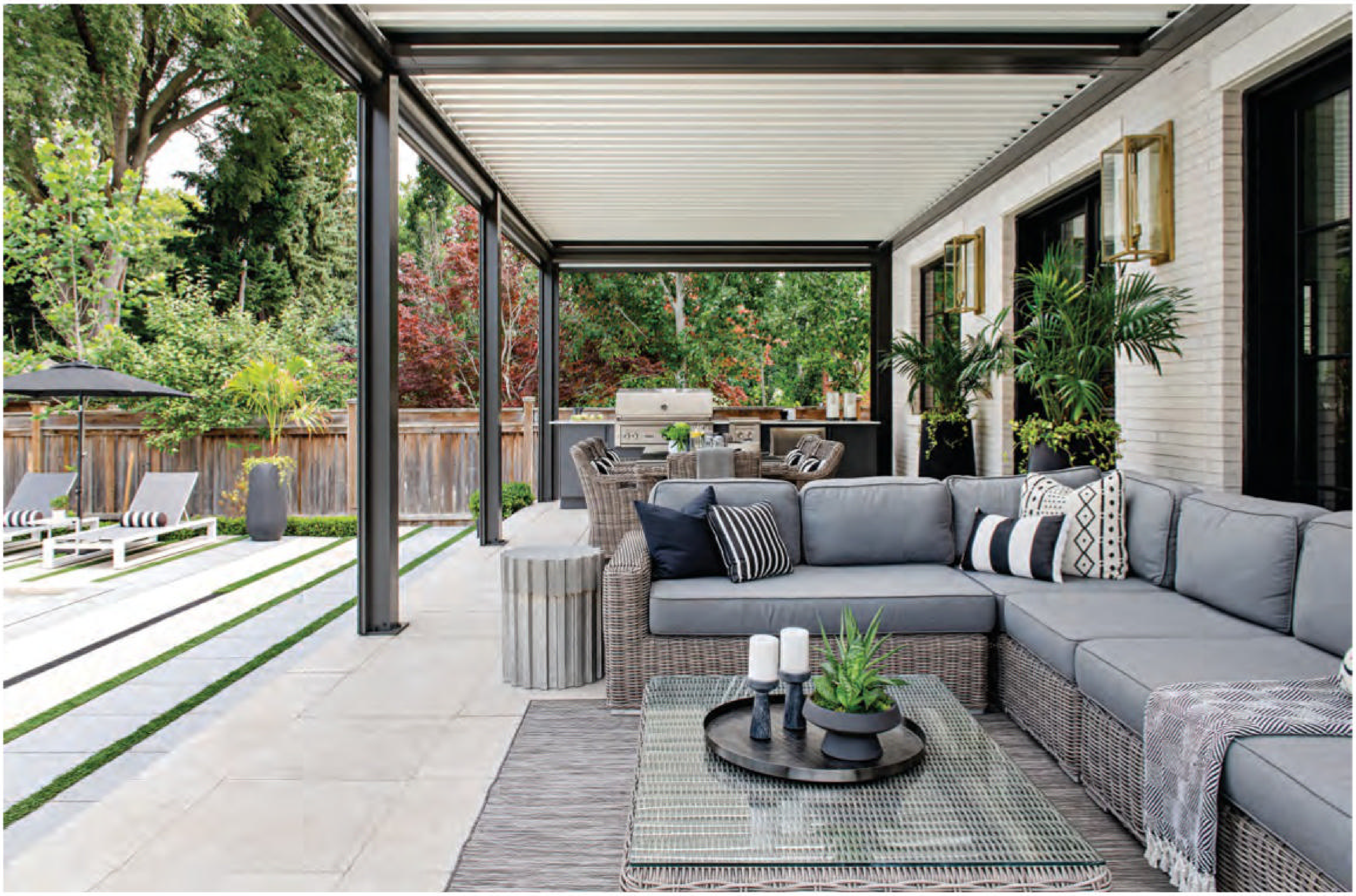
Splash Out

Designer Kate Davidson opted for a shallow entertainment pool that is just five feet at its deepest and boasts a tanning ledge, LED lights and fun deck jets. The terrace is defined by mitred-edge streamlined stairs, which were custom-made in Italy, and features a contemporary pergola structure with an outdoor kitchen complete with exterior-grade Caesarstone countertops and metal cabinetry.

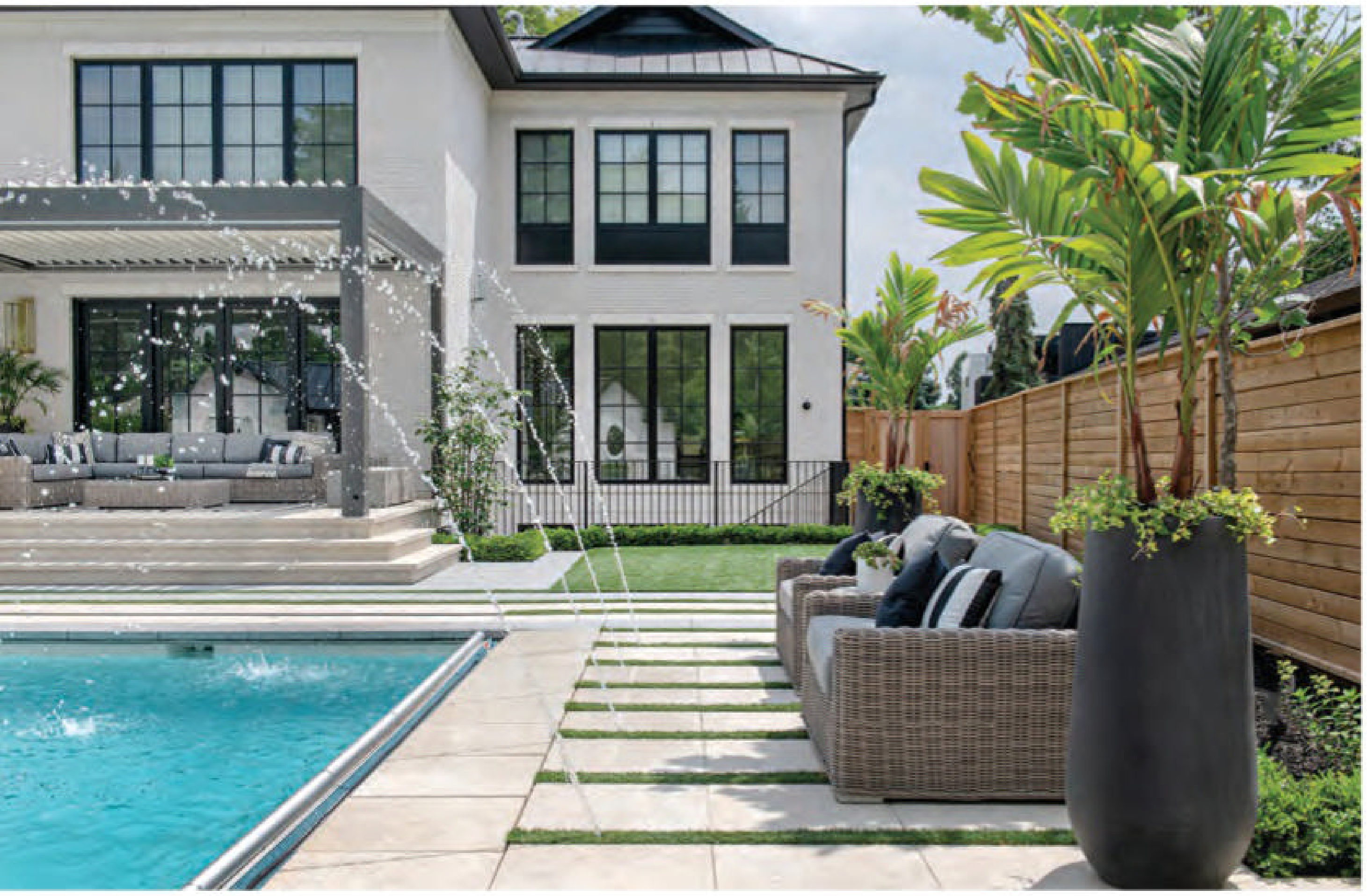
Sit Back & Relax

Comfortable practicality was the driver for the poolside seating. "I sourced generous loungers to create another conversational area," says Kate. "They're water resistant and cushion-free, so they make a sleek, modern statement that's also low maintenance." Black umbrellas offer contrasting impact and shade, while striped bolsters parlay a resort-like finishing touch.





“My goal was to create a livable yet elegant outdoor living space.”



Under Cover

“The pergola was a must and was always in my design plans,” says Kate. “I opted for this structure, rather than a roof overhang, because it allows the flexibility to open it up and bring light into the back of the house in the winter.” White sunscreens roll down to offer shade and keep out bugs. The sectional’s woven base softens the area, and its easy-to-clean outdoor fabric is a smart backdrop for bold cushions.

Water Works

How fun are the deck’s water jets? “I saw this idea at a resort and wanted to integrate it into our landscaping,” says Kate. “The kids love them and they bring the soothing sound of water into the backyard. They’re also a big talking point when guests arrive.” Kate opted for faux grass between the pavers. “It’s low maintenance and introduces colour and softness among the grey and cream porcelain pavers.” Comfy chairs and potted plants further the tropical resort vibe.

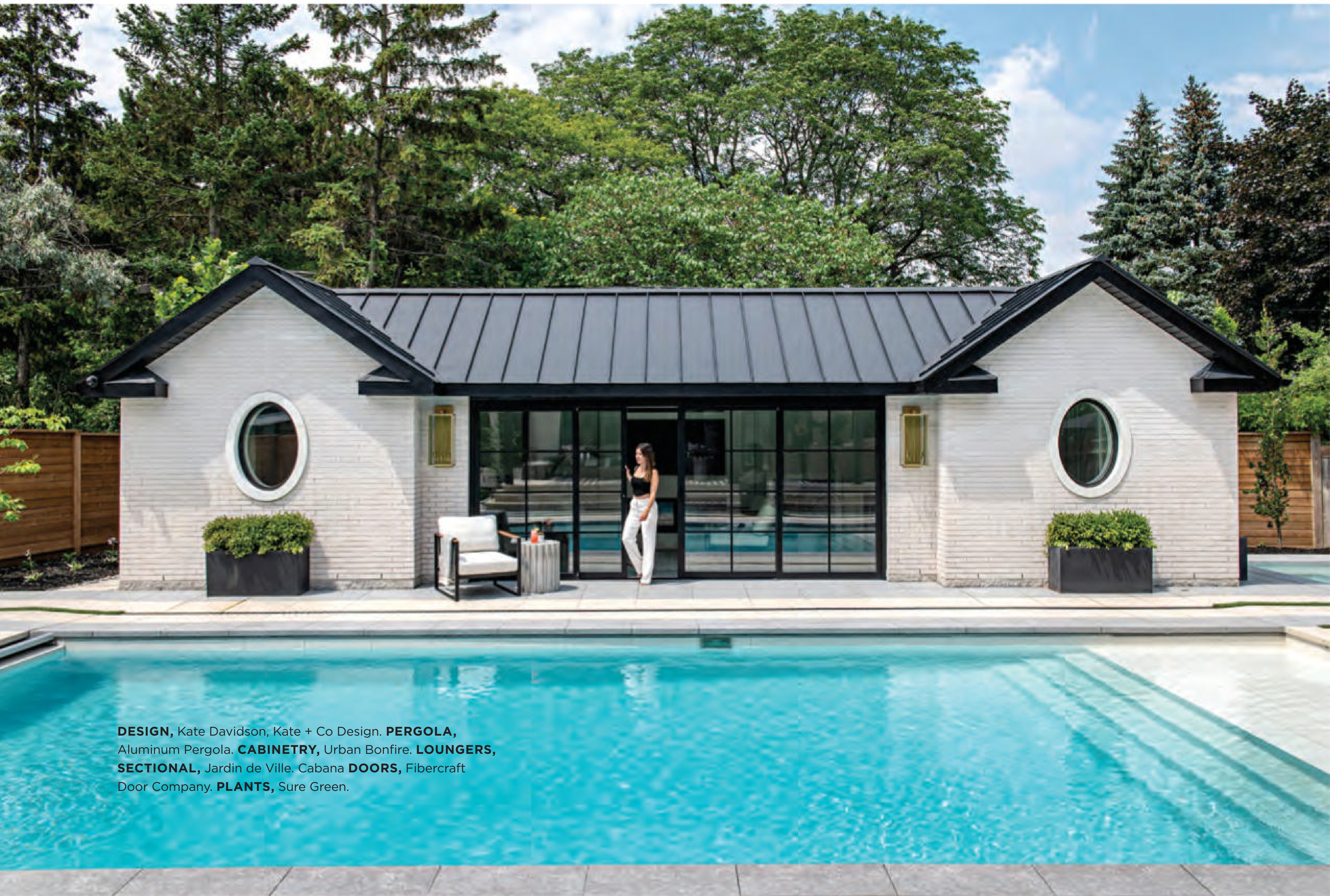
Alfresco Ease

The terrace's oversized dining table seats up to 10 guests, and its woven armchairs invite comfortable lingering. "We love to entertain and cook, and this large area makes it easy with spaces for outdoor dining, grilling and using the pizza oven," says Kate.

Year-Round Resort

"I designed the cabana to be like a home in itself," says Kate. "It features the same Spanish brick as our house, and inside there's a full bathroom, sitting area with fireplace and TV, air conditioning, heating and extra bar areas, which come in handy when we're entertaining." Its doors are flanked by the same custom oversized sconces that light up the terrace. Says Kate, "I chose a gold tone to soften the black and white, and to add interest to the exterior."

"The porcelain pavers are heated to allow easy access to the cabana year-round."



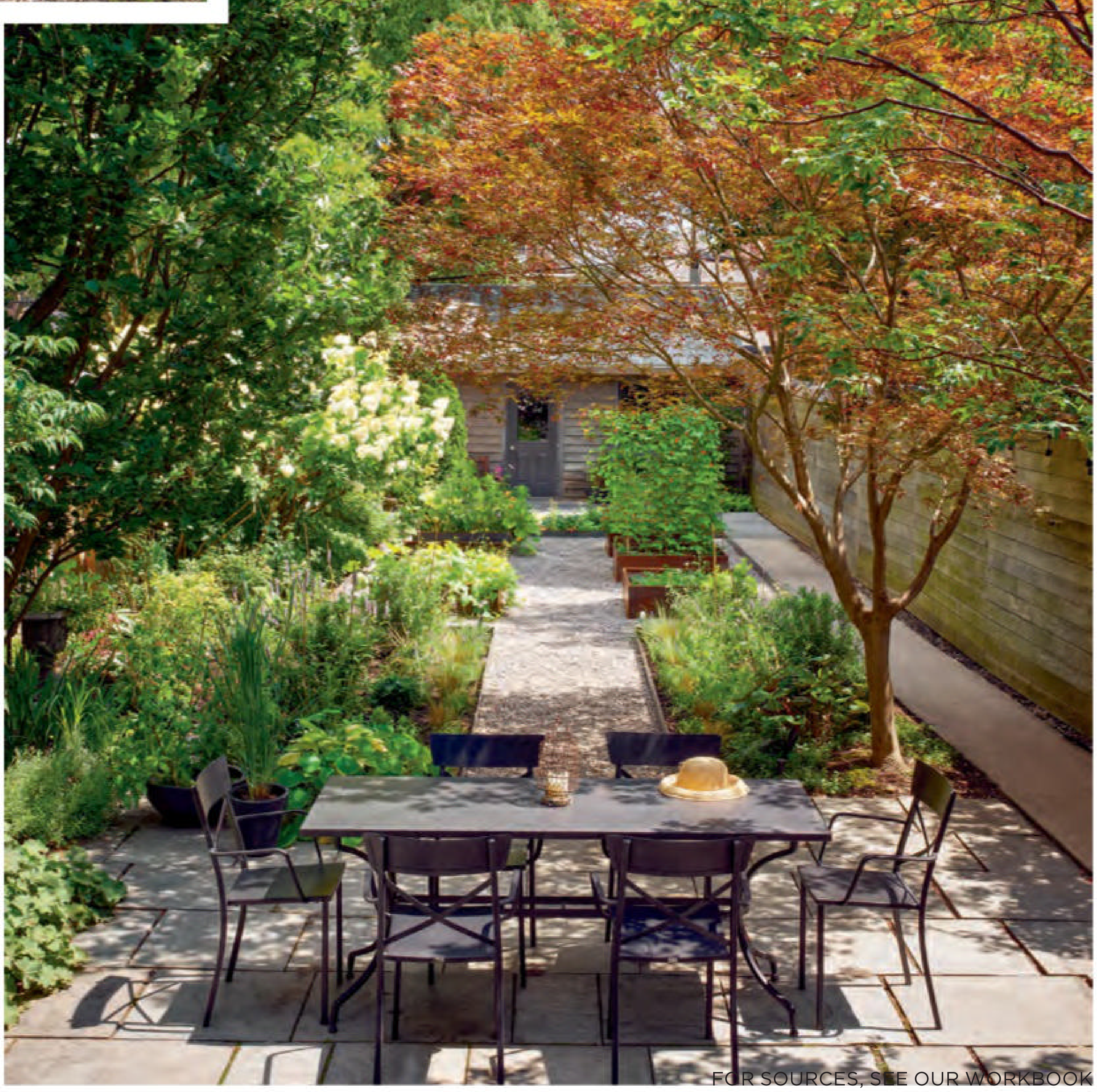
DESIGN, Kate Davidson, Kate + Co Design. **PERGOLA,** Aluminum Pergola. **CABINETRY,** Urban Bonfire. **LOUNGERS, SECTIONAL,** Jardin de Ville. Cabana **DOORS,** Fibercraft Door Company. **PLANTS,** Sure Green.

GROWING ZEN

Tomatoes, blueberries, blooming perennials and various lettuces grow in this bountiful backyard that's a peaceful patch of paradise.

TEXT IRIS BENAROIA
PHOTOGRAPHY PATRICK BILLER

Can a vegetable garden feel Zen? In Leigh Gravenor's hands it can. The Toronto-based landscape designer created a unique backyard for a pair of empty nesters. At its centre sit six carefully composed vegetable beds. "I thought it was bold of them to give up the largest portion of their yard to a walk-in vegetable garden," says Leigh. "People tend to think you need a big property to do that." There's also a flower garden that's lovely for table arrangements indoors and out, as well as a dining area. And recently, the homeowners added a Japanese hot tub to the back of the garden. "The garden has a bucolic feel. It's super informal – the epitome of a naturalized space – mixing together perennials, vegetables, cut flowers and herbs," says Leigh. "The result is an oasis of privacy, of calm." In other words: Zen.



FOR SOURCES, SEE OUR WORKBOOK

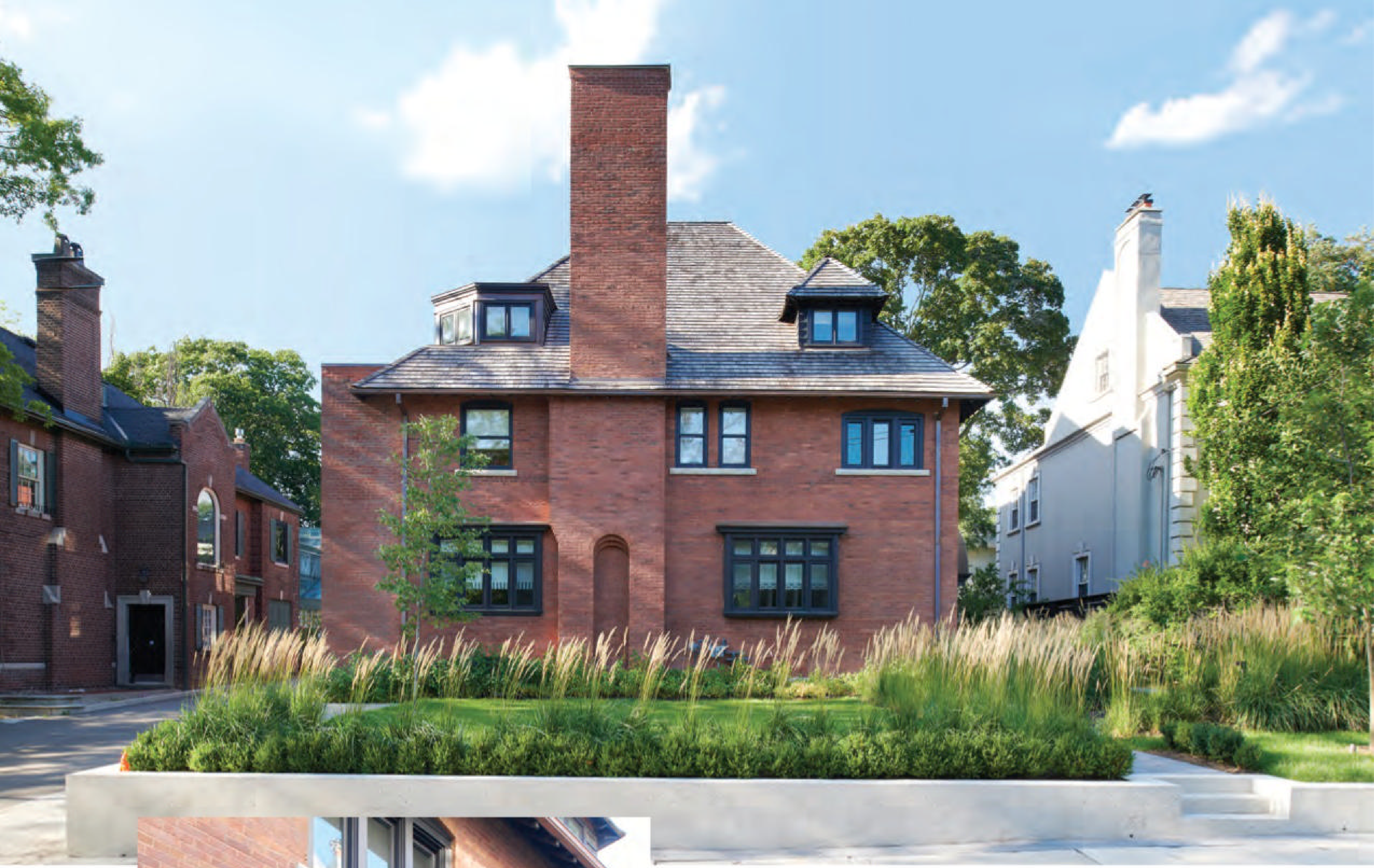
FROM YARD TO TABLE

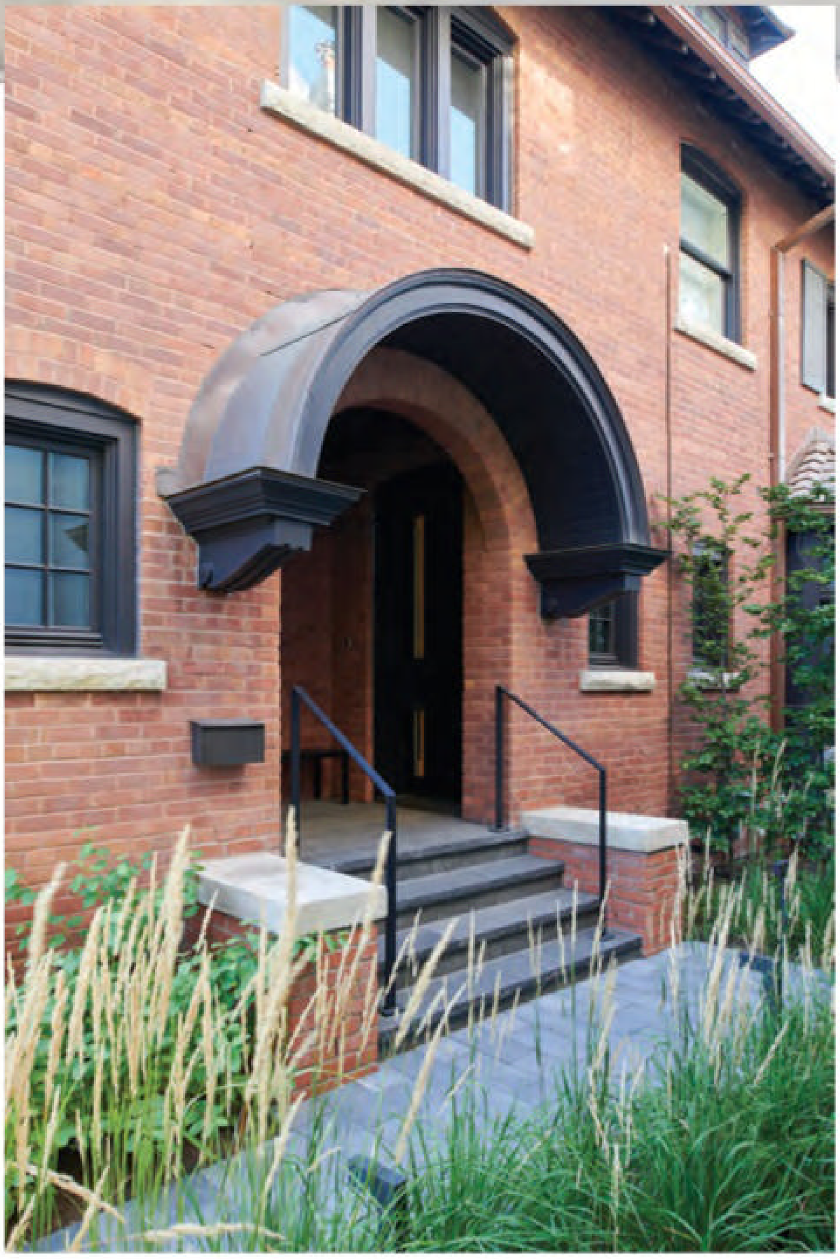
"Because it's such a long yard, at 200 feet, it feels so private, a bit like you're in a larger property outside of the city," says landscape designer Leigh Gravenor of the charming garden ready for dining alfresco. It's easy to decorate the tabletop – the cut-flower garden, where allium, nepeta, salvia and Mexican feather grass all grow, is right beside the table.

SERENE SCENE

A beech tree, tall hydrangeas and maples – both Japanese and paperbark – lend a sense of lushness to the backyard. Meanwhile, the pea gravel walkway skirts around the corten-steel planters to encourage an interconnectedness with the other parts of the garden and to invite people to linger. "They pull up chairs right into the vegetable garden," says Leigh, noting that the homeowner has a green thumb. "The nasturtiums, marigolds and cosmos are all from seeds."

LANDSCAPE DESIGN, Leigh Gravenor, Leigh Gravenor Landscape Design. Veradek **PLANTERS,** Amazon. **CONTRACTOR,** RV Construction.





BACK STORY

From the street, you'd never guess that this classic heritage home has an ultramodern backyard.

TEXT BETHANY LYTTLE | **PHOTOGRAPHY** ALEX LUKEY

Senses & Sensibility

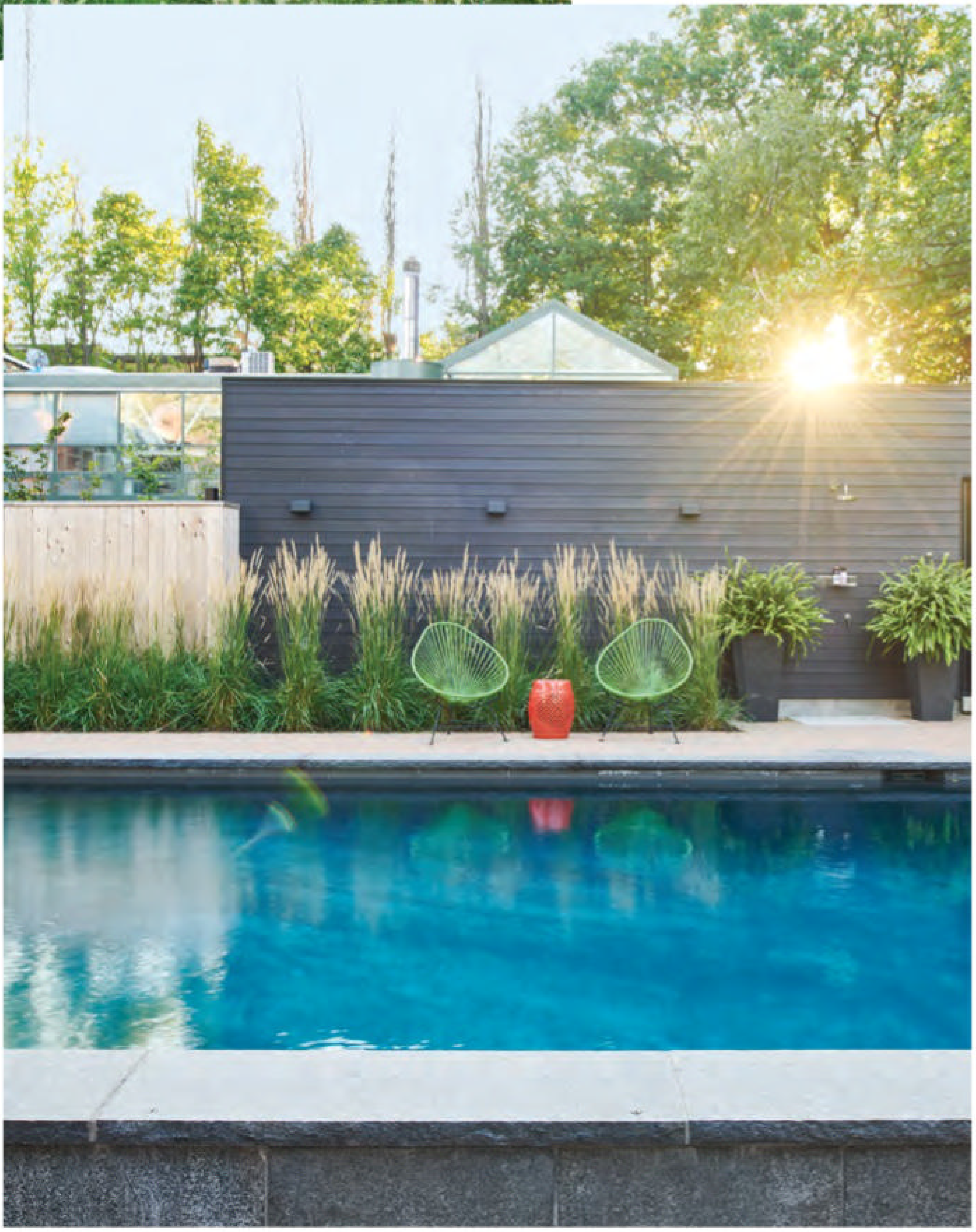
"Instead of typical aqua, we painted the pool a sultry deep blue that melds with the warm blacks, tans and brick tones in the design," says Joel. The yard offers an immersive experience for the senses: slip into the pool, step down into the patio for drinks, or sink into the spa beneath the stars. On summer nights, the scent of lavender wafts across the yard; on summer mornings, colourful mod seating beckons.

POOL, SPA, Gib-San.

Lush & Linear

Feather-like grasses parade in front of the traditional Toronto home, along the side pathway and behind the shimmering pool. "All of the mass plantings, including the boxwoods and lavender, are deliberately low maintenance. This keeps the focus on enjoyment, not gardening," says landscape architect Joel Loblaw.

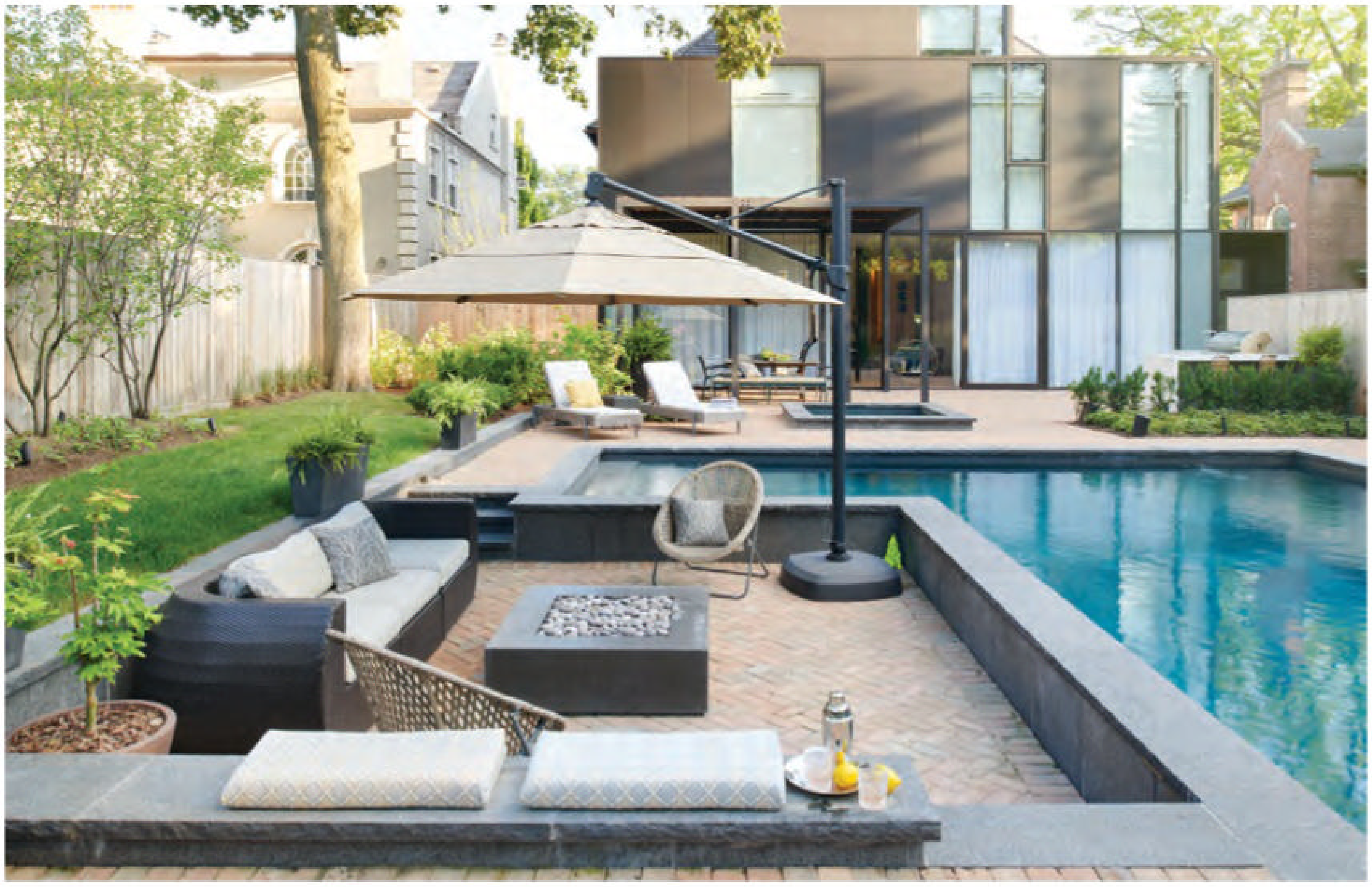
LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE, PLANTINGS, Joel Loblaw and Lindsy Gregory, Joel Loblaw Inc.



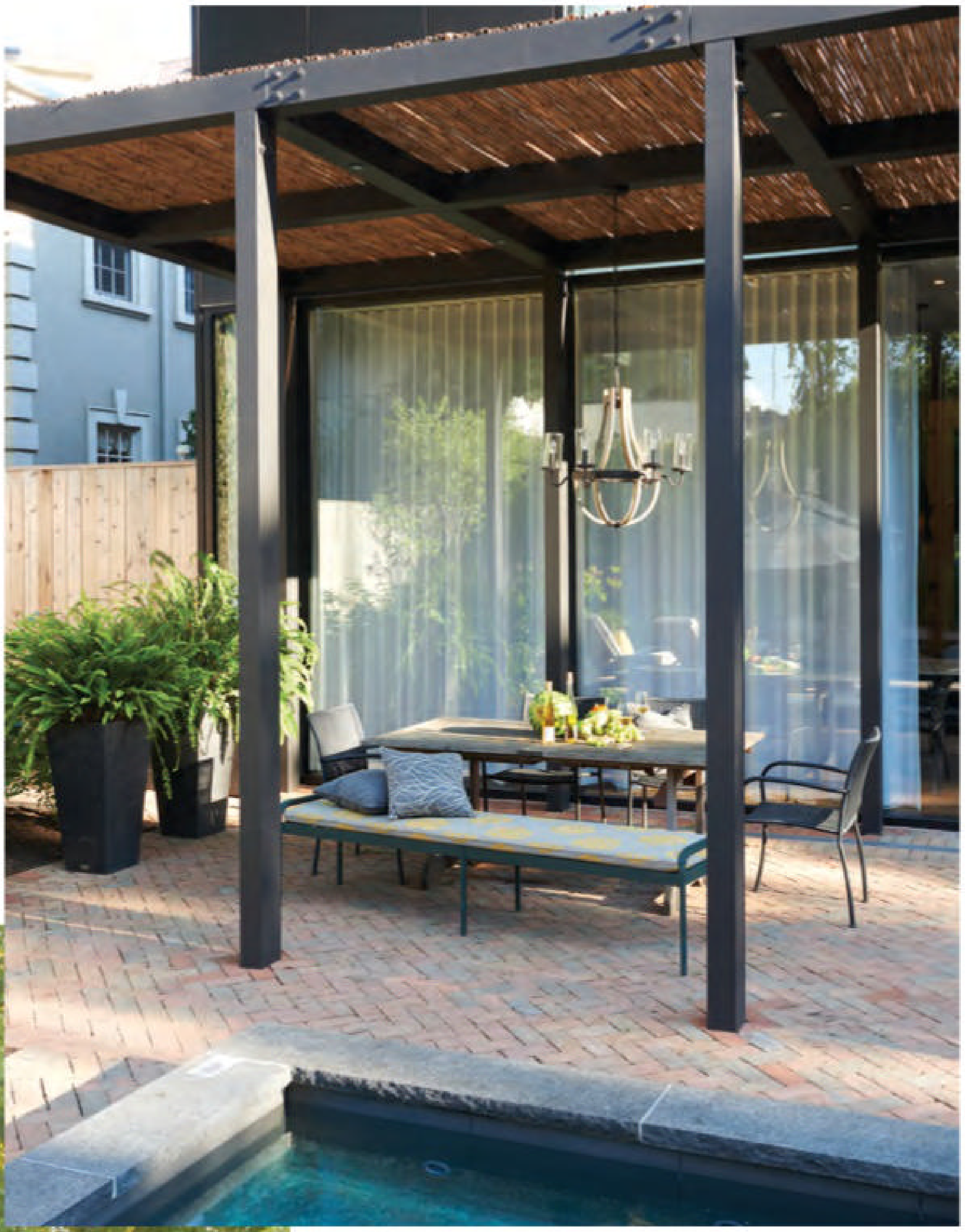
Sunken Treasure

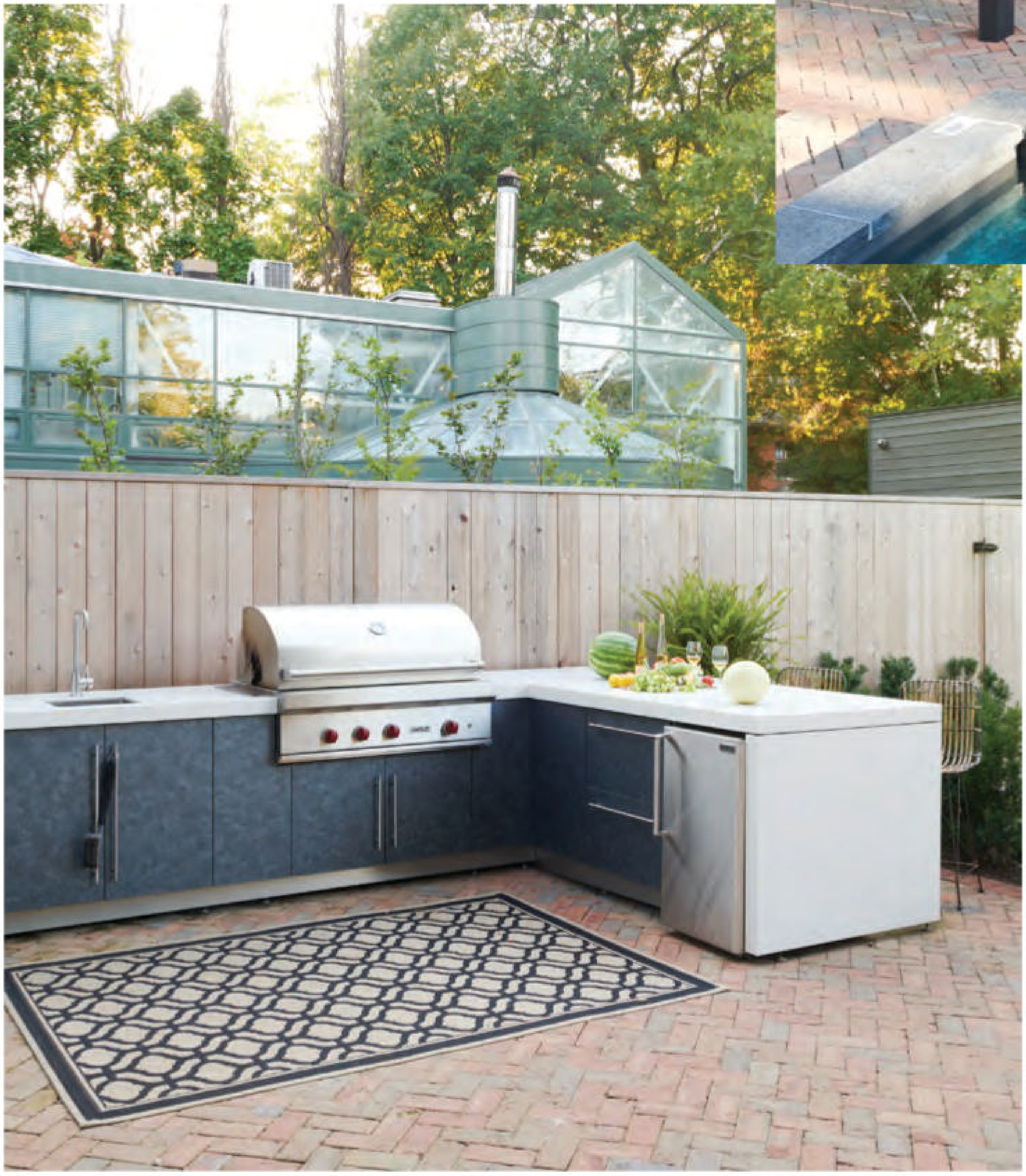
The glassy surface of the pool is almost at eye level for guests sitting on the sunken patio. The furniture and umbrellas can be moved to adapt to seasonal shifts in sun and shade. Meanwhile, a perfectly square spa awaits just a few steps from the house. "This is Canada," says Joel. "It can get chilly out here!"

Bento **FIREPIT,** Paloform.



"The lines are modern, but the look is timeless," says landscape architect Joel Loblaw, referring to the mod-and-minimalist backyard he created with Lindsy Gregory, his business partner and co-owner of Joel Loblaw Inc. Comprised of a medley of rectangles and squares, the yard features a cleanlined L-shaped pool, a bank of shallow steps into the water, a clever sunken patio with firepit and, steps from a dining area, a handsome square spa. A towering metal arbour hugs the house and offers shade. "This yard is all about distinct zones in simple shapes that deliver deeply sensory experiences," says Joel.





Cool Shade

The nearly 10-foot-wide arbour at the back of the house is a study in scale. "The steel monolith was deliberately designed to align with the top of the glass doors and to blend with the home's exterior materials," says Joel. A bamboo "roof" designed by Lisa Lev provides shade and softens the lines of the metal structure while adding warmth. The linear dining table and ornate chandelier echo the property's fusion of heritage and modern styles.

ARBOUR, Hogtown Metal Fabrication. **BAMBOO ROOF DESIGN,** Lisa Lev Design.

Corner Store

A built-in kitchen with plenty of storage and a generously sized grill makes it easy to host a post-swim meal alfresco. The streamlined setup is grounded by the graphics of the yard's brick pavers, which are laid in a herringbone pattern.

OUTDOOR KITCHEN, Garden Living.

DESIGN, Denise Ashmore, Project 22 Design. **LOUNGE CHAIRS,** Crate and Barrel.

CHILL TIME

When the sun gets low, it's time to light the fire table, grab a throw, and end the day in the most relaxing way.

PHOTOGRAPHY TRACEY AYTON

◀ Sunbrella **PATIO UMBRELLA,** $2,299, Crate and Barrel, crateandbarrel.ca.

get the look

outdoor inspiration

▼ Patioflame propane **FIREPIT,** $1,649, Napoleon, napoleon.com.

◀ Diamond **PLANT HOLDER,** $160, Véronneau, veronneau.com.

▲ Marbella dual-adjustable **CHAISE,** $5,995, RH, rh.com.

▶ Cacala **BATH TOWEL,** $36, Amazon, amazon.ca.

▼ Kelly Hoppen **OUTDOOR PILLOW COVER,** $350, RH Modern, rhmodern.rh.com.

▲ Safavieh Camilla **STOOL,** $229, Rona, rona.ca.

SOURCE GUIDE

Where to find the products featured on our pages.

A

Alexanian Carpet & Flooring
alexanian.com

Aluminum Pergola
aluminumpergola.ca

Amazon
amazon.ca

Article
article.com

Avenue Road
avenue-road.com

B

Beachcomber Home Leisure
bhleisure.com

Blu Dot
bludot.com

Bosquet
bosquet.ca

C

Canada Outdoor Kitchens
canadaoutdoorkitchens.com

Casualife
casualife.ca

CB2
cb2.ca

Ciot
ciot.com

Cosentino
cosentino.com

D

Dekko
dekko.ca

Dekton
dekton.com

Design Within Reach
dwr.com

F

Ferm Living
fermliving.com

Fibercraft Door Company
fibercraftdoor.ca

Flux Developments
fluxdevelopments.ca

Frankie Flowers
frankieflowers.com

Fresh Home & Garden
fresh.ca

G

Garden Living
gardenliving.com

Gib-San
gibsanpools.com

H

Hogtown Metal Fabrication
hogtownsheetmetal.com

HomeSense
homesense.ca

I

Isabey Interiors
isabeyinteriors.com

J

Jardin de Ville
jardindeville.com

Joel Loblaw Inc.
joelloblaw.com

K

Kate + Co Design
kateandcodesign.com

Kichler
kichler.com

Kingsman Fireplaces
kingsmanind.com

L

Leigh Gravenor Landscape Design
leighgravenor.com

Lisa Lev Design
lisalevdesign.com

Luxal
luxalcanada.ca

M

Menu
menuspace.com

Moe's Home Collection
moeshomecollection.com

N

Nuewal
nuewal.com

O

Outdoor Lighting Perspectives
outdoorlights.com

P

Paloform
paloform.com

Pioneer Family Pools
pioneerfamilypools.ca

R

RDG Millwork
rdgl.ca

Renwil
renwil.com

Robinson Lighting
robinsonlightingcentre.com

Rove Concepts
roveconcepts.com

RV Construction
rvconstruction.ca

S

Serena and Lily
serenaandlily.com

Studio HA/WA
studiohawa.com

SunLouvre Pergolas
sunlouvrepergolas.com

Sure Green
suregreen.ca

SYNLawn Canada
synlawn.ca

T

The Lightscapers
thelightscapers.ca

Timber Tech
timbertech.com

Tonic Living
tonicliving.ca

Traeger Grills
traeger.com

Treehouse Fine Cabinetry
treehousefinecabinetry.com

Trex Company
trex.com

True Stainless
truestainless.ca

U

Urban Bonfire
urbanbonfire.ca

V

Van Gogh Designs
vangoghdesigns.com

W

Wayfair
wayfair.ca

Weber-Stephen Canada
weber.com

West Elm
westelm.ca

Wicker Land Patio
wickerlandpatio.com

LOOKING FOR DECORATING INSPIRATION?

visit styleathome.com

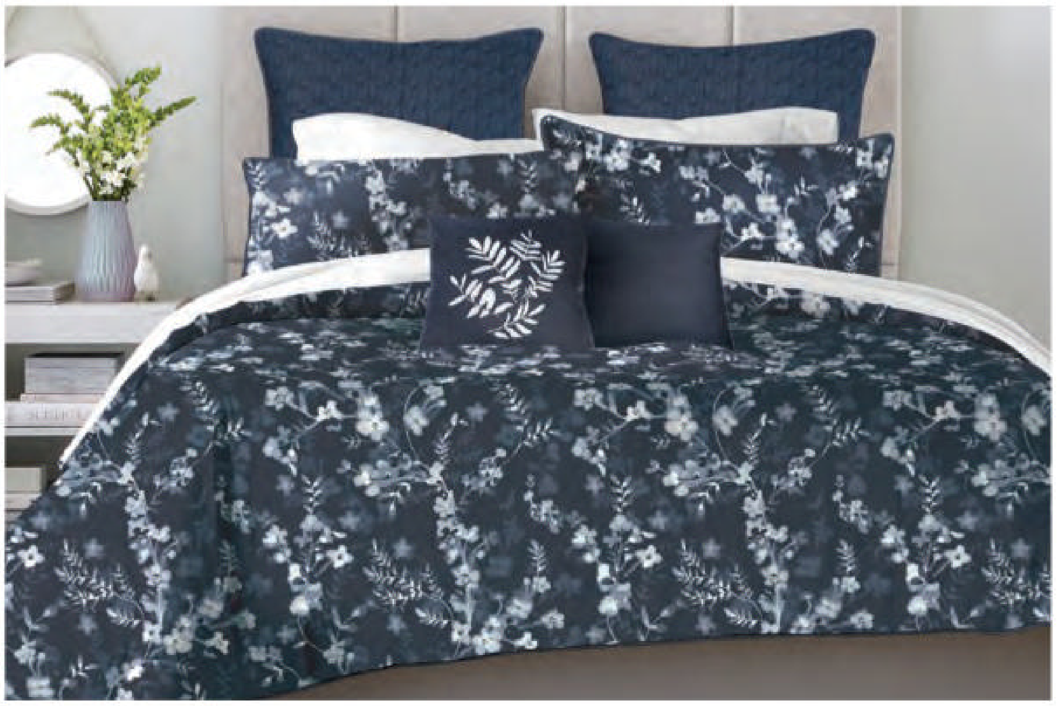
Join the community

Canadian Living
Bedding Collection

Add easy elegance to your bedroom. Shop our stylish bedding, bamboo sheets sets, towels and bath rugs in-store and online at
bedbathandbeyond.ca

Painterly colours and geometric prints

Patterns inspired by the beauty of Canada



See more of the **Canadian Living Bedding Collection**, available exclusively at

BED BATH &
BEYOND